

Hafa Adai!

Man allegedly wields machete at a local bank. **PAGE 2**

Taste of the Marianas tokens return; now for sale online. **PAGE 4**

\$1

# Saipan Tribune



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**'CHILDREN MATTER'**  
Childcare providers, children, and parents pose with Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang after the two signed a proclamation designating the month of June as CNMI Children Matter Month yesterday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.  
CHRYSTAL MARINO

## NMC renews president's contract

By LEIGH GASES  
[leigh\\_gases@saipantribune.com](mailto:leigh_gases@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College Board of Regents has renewed Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero's contract as NMC president for another four years.

Board chair Charles V. Cepeda announced the renewal of Deleon Guerrero's

See NMC on Page 4



From left to right, Northern Marianas College regent Jesse M. Tudela, Board of Regents chair Charles V. Cepeda, NMC president Dr. Galvin Deleon Guerrero, regent Michelle L. Sablan, regent Zenie P. Mafnas, and NMC Foundation board chair Vicente Babauta after the press conference announcing Deleon Guerrero's four-year contract renewal as NMC president yesterday morning at the Board of Regents conference room at the NMC campus.

LEIGH GASES

## Taste of the Marianas tokens return; now for sale online

Tokens for the 24th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden that begins this

Saturday, June 3, are now for sale online.

See TOKENS on Page 4



Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden tokens.

MVA

**'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN**  
Days until 'touchback rule' takes effect on Sept. 30, 2023:  
**120**

## SMA's Rota-Guam flights resume today

» **United also resumes Saipan-Guam flights today**

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
[kimberly\\_esmores@saipantribune.com](mailto:kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

Mawar barreled through Rota and Guam and temporarily disrupting flights, Star

See SMA on Page 4

Over a week after Typhoon

## \$5M judgment in favor of ex-IPI employee OK'd

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
[kimberly\\_esmores@saipantribune.com](mailto:kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court for the NMI has granted an over

\$5-million default judgment in favor of a former Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC employee who had accused the casino investor of

wrongful termination.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona issued last Tuesday

See IPI on Page 4

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Docomo Pacific shares the latest Typhoon Mawar restoration updates for the CNMI.

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### OFF THE WALL

Dozens of reckless racers chase a 7-pound (3 kilogram) wheel of Double Gloucester cheese.

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### LIFE & STYLE

A Los Angeles jury has found Danny Masterson guilty on two of three counts of rape.

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## Local

## Man allegedly wielding machete at a local bank

By KIMBERLY B. ESMORES  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Department of Public Safety arrested a man at the Bank of Guam yesterday morning after bystanders reported that he was wielding a machete outside the establishment.

Footage of police vehicles lined up outside the Bank of Guam entrance in Garapan and officers entering the building with their K9 units circulated on several social media platforms yesterday.

In a statement from Department of Public Safety spokesperson Fred Sato in response to the footage, he said officers and K9s responded to the scene following a disturbance call but the K9 units were not deployed as officers were able to restrain the suspect.

DPS later reported that Patrick T. Gibo, 44, was the subject in the incident. Gibo was allegedly wielding a machete outside Bank of Guam and he was reported to police.

Bank of Guam refused to comment about the incident.

In an official press release from DPS, it stated that DPS dispatch received a call about a disturbance at the Bank of Guam in Garapan at about 9:41am yesterday. Witnesses reported seeing a man wielding a machete and screaming outside the bank's main entrance.

Bank employees initially attempted to assist Gibo, but then decided to wait for responding officers.

Officers arrived on the scene at about 9:45am and one officer noticed Gibo standing outside with a machete on the ground beside him. Gibo allegedly attempted to pick up the machete twice, but both times, the officer immediately directed him to drop it and step away.

On his third attempt to pick up the weapon, the officer physically stopped Gibo from picking it up and was assisted by other officers in restraining the man.

The man was detained and then transported to the Commonwealth Health Center where he remains admitted for 72 hours for an evaluation.

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## Supreme Court reinstates charges in sex assault case

The Supreme Court has vacated the dismissal of charges against Willie Carnell Frink, 40, a steward supervisor of a maritime prepositioning ship who was arrested in November 2022 after being accused of sexually assaulting a female crewmember. The high court's decision leaves the NMI Office of the Attorney General free to continue the prosecution.

After hearing testimony from the investigating officer at a preliminary hearing in November, the Superior Court concluded that there was insufficient evidence to detain Frink for trial and dismissed all charges. Prosecutors filed a petition

in the Supreme Court, requesting an order reinstating the charges.

In its decision, the Supreme Court wrote, "We are left with a firm conviction that the trial court erred in its analysis of the evidence presented at the preliminary hearing. ...The trial court's ruling is clearly erroneous as a matter of law."

See SUPREME on Page 4

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# United: Fee waivers for those stranded by Mawar

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Since Typhoon Mawar made landfall in the Marianas, airlines have been sending rescue flights for tourists stranded in the Marianas after flights were abruptly cancelled. United Airlines is taking a different approach. Instead of sending rescue flights, it will be waiving rebooking fees.

One of the concerns raised by tourists stranded on Saipan post-Typhoon Mawar was whether or not they would have to pay to reschedule flights with United Airlines. Fortunately, according to United Airlines, fees have been

waived for these passengers.

“There are travel waivers in effect for flights through June 5. Please see the screen grab from the United website for reference and details. United customers are encouraged to check [united.com](https://www.united.com) or the United app for the most current flight information or to reschedule their flights as a result of Typhoon Mawar. Customers can contact United Reservations at 1-800-864-8331 for assistance,” said United.

This fee waiver is only effective for United flights from the following airports:

- Guam, GU, US (GUM)
- Kosrae, FM (KSA)
- Kwajalein, MH (KWA)

- Majuro, MH (MAJ)
- Pohnpei, FM (PNI)
- Koror, PW (ROR)
- Saipan, MP, US (SPN)
- Chuuk, FM (TKK)

According to United’s website, if you’re scheduled to fly to or from one of the airports affected, here are your options:

- You can reschedule your trip and they will waive change fees and fare differences. However, your new flight must be a United flight departing between May 20, 2023 and June 10, 2023. (Tickets must be in the same cabin and between the same cities as originally booked.)
- If your new trip is after June 10, 2023, or is to a differ-

ent destination, United will still waive any change fees but you might have to pay a fare difference, depending on the flight.

Meanwhile, United resumes regular flights for the CNMI and Guam starting today.

“The United team is working to resume our normal flight schedule for Guam, Saipan, and Micronesia as practical as possible. We resumed Saipan-Guam flights as of May 30, and flights between Saipan and Narita will resume on June 2 to get our customers home and where they need to go. We appreciate your understanding and patience as we work toward fully restoring flight schedules,” said United.

## NMC

From Page 1

contract in a news briefing yesterday morning at the college’s conference room

In attendance were other regents, NMC Foundation chair Vicente Babauta, NMC vice president of Administration and Advancement Frankie Eliptico, and NMC faculty and staff.

Deleon Guerrero said that he is “humbled and honored” about his contract renewal.

“This is a great team. I appreciate the trust that the Board of Regents have been given to me for a four-year contract. I look forward to continue working with a great team at the college to keep sailing ahead,” he said.

He said the highlight of his

tenure has always been the students. “I’m so proud of our students. ... A lot of these students have overcome so much and that’s what I’m most proud of—how much our students have overcome and they stick with it, they continue to sail on, and it’s a privilege to be able to help them do that,” he added.

He said his first official act under his new contract is to hopefully have the groundbreaking of the new campus’ Student Center this summer.

Cepeda said that Deleon Guerrero went through an evaluation with the involvement of NMC faculty, staff, and some students. The final results were presented on Tuesday in a board meeting where the board accepted the evaluation results and approved his new contract.

Cepeda said that Deleon Guerrero’s leadership stood out in his evaluation. “He’s just been very open. A lot of what I read in the evaluation is that he set up the community open dialogue for different college groups. And vice versa with the board. As chairman, I’ve been privileged to be meeting with him every week. We schedule once a week to meet and he updates me on what needs to be updated for the college and vice versa...”

He added, “He has proven effective in forging partnerships, initiating new programs, and expanding workforce development efforts. ... We will continue to work with... ‘Dr. G’ to continue the college’s momentum, especially as we rebuild our college buildings. ... There

are many challenges and obstacles that lie ahead for the college, but together with our president, the staff, and faculty, we will be able to overcome these and ensure our students continue to receive the high-quality education and services they expect to receive from NMC.”

Babauta congratulated Deleon Guerrero and said, “We’re looking forward to another four years as we also establish our signature events for our college and more so for our new buildings. Congratulations.”

Deleon Guerrero’s contract was set to end on June 30 and his new four-year contract will begin on July 1, 2023.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## TOKENS

From Page 1

The Marianas Visitors Authority is expanding the availability of tokens to online purchases via their official website at [www.mymarianas.com](http://www.mymarianas.com). Tokens purchased via credit card, debit card, or PayPal via the website can be claimed at either the MVA office in Garapan in the afternoon or at the cashier’s booth during the festival

at Garapan Fishing Base. To claim tokens, purchasers must show their QR code confirmation that they will receive after making an online payment. Festival vendor purchases will require tokens this year, and tokens can also be purchased at the festival with cash.

The Taste of the Marianas is the largest food festival in the Marianas and an annual signature event of the MVA. The festival offers affordable dishes from local hotels and

restaurants, drinks from local vendors, live entertainment, and arts and crafts sales from 5pm to 10pm nightly and until 11pm on the final night.

“The MVA has used Taste tokens for over 20 years now. The use of tokens allows us to track the success of the event through sales and provide greater safety of sales revenue for vendors. It also adds a festival-like atmosphere that is common at food festivals around the world,” said MVA

managing director Christopher A. Concepcion. “And now, for the first time, we’re pleased to offer Taste tokens for purchase via credit card, debit card, or PayPal using the link on our homepage. You can also pick up your tokens during the week at the MVA office, so you can skip the token line entirely at the festival.”

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## SMA

From Page 1

Marianas Airlines announced it will be resuming flights between the two islands starting today, June 2, 2023.

Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) announced the resumption of flights by the CNMI’s lone interisland airline in a Facebook post last Wednesday.

“Guam Commuter Terminal has just been cleared for passenger operation so Star Marianas Air will be resuming their passenger flights between Guam and Rota beginning Friday, June

2, 2023,” he said.

The resumption of flights is apparently on the list of priorities as Rota and Guam continue with their recovery efforts post-Mawar.

Separately, Star Marianas Airlines itself announced that flights between Rota and Guam are set to resume starting June 2.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that United Airlines is also set to resume its Marianas flights today, June 2.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, the Rota International Airport has been assessed and is now 100% operational.

As for power and water service, about 92% of the island has been re-energized while water service has been completely restored.

The CNMI’s federal partners have also begun their assessments and are soon expected to provide resources needed for Rota’s restoration.

Last Tuesday, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios accompanied a team of senior leaders from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to Rota to discuss response and recovery efforts with Rota Mayor Aubrey M. Hocog. The delegation from FEMA included Anne Bink, FEMA associate

administrator of Response and Recovery; FEMA Region IX administrator Robert “Bob” Fenton; Jeffrey Dorko, FEMA associate administrator, Logistics; Justin Knighton, FEMA director of External Affairs; and other FEMA leaders.

The visit also allowed senior FEMA leaders to see firsthand the typhoon damage on Rota and the ongoing local response efforts like the restoration of power, and restoration of water access.

FEMA personnel also visited the CUC power plant, East Harbor, West Harbor, and other locations that sustained damage from Mawar.

# Rota donation drive launched

The Fraternal Order of Eagles (Philippine Eagles), Saipan Magalahi Eagles Club, and Saipan Maga’Haga Lady Eagles Group have launched a donation drive for Rota residents affected by Typhoon Mawar.

“The island of Rota was... greatly affected, leaving some parts damaged and low on supplies of food and water. We are asking for your kind support to help and donate some items listed below to be sent out to the island of Rota,” said the groups in a statement.

The list of items needed for the donation drive are dried goods, bottled water, first aid kits, butane/stove, cleaning

supplies, hygiene products, toiletries, school supplies, instant noodles, and toys.

The group added that the Office of Rota Mayor Aubrey Hocog, Office of Sen. Dennis Mendiola, and the Saipan Maga’Haga Lady Eagles Group will initiate a project on June 4, 2023, Sunday, when they will collect care packages at the Kilili Pavilion in Susupe, for shipment to Rota.

“Thank you very much and We hope that we can extend our help in this difficult time to our neighboring island of Rota is experiencing,” said the groups. **(PR)**

## IPI

From Page 1

a default judgment order in the amount of \$5,686,182 in favor of Joshua Gray, who sued the casino investor for allegedly terminating him because he complained to IPI management about the company’s practice of recruiting non-U.S. citizens and non-local applicants instead of qualified U.S. and CNMI citizens.

“...Gray has prevailed against IPI on his racial discrimination claim, claim of wrongful termination in violation of public policy, and Title VII discrimination and retaliation claims,” said Manglona.

Specifically, Manglona awarded Gray \$1,421,545 in compensatory damages and \$4,264,636 in punitive damages.

“The court awards Gray the following compensatory damages: \$121,545.55 in back pay, \$300,000 in lost future earnings, and \$1,000,000 in emotional distress damages. The total of compensatory damages amounts to \$1,421,545.55. With a ratio of 3:1 of punitive damages to compensatory damages, the court awards \$4,264,636.65 in punitive damages. Therefore, the total amount of compensatory and punitive damages is \$5,686,182.20 plus attorneys’ fees and costs, prejudgment interest at the same rate as post-judgment interest, and post-judgment interest at the applicable federal rate,” said Manglona.

Initially, sued IPI for \$3,939,768 in compensatory damages with a ratio of 7:1 for punitive damages, which

is about \$31,518,144 in total damages.

However, Manglona said, after reviewing the record, the evidence presented, and relevant case law, the court granted Gray’s motion for default judgment, but for the lesser amount of \$5,686,182.20.

According to Gray’s initial complaint, IPI recruited Gray to work as a director for operations in July 2015.

In late 2017, Gray complained to IPI that the company was violating immigration law and CNMI public policy by failing to hire qualified U.S. and local applicants.

Gray complained that IPI had a policy of recruiting non-U.S. citizens solely from Asian countries and employing them instead of qualified U.S. and CNMI citizens. Gray said he informed IPI that it had to stop these practices.

IPI allegedly terminated Gray’s employment on Jan. 24, 2018, without reason or justification and done nothing to merit termination. The termination, Gray claims, was clearly in retaliation.

The complaint also stated that back in June 2016, Gray applied for the position of vice president of IPI’s hotel operations. However, Gray was never given an interview even though he was the most qualified. Instead, IPI allegedly simply gave the position to a Singaporean citizen.

In March 2017, Gray allegedly applied for the position of vice president of talent and property management. Again, the complaint states, Gray was never given an interview. Instead, IPI gave the position to another Singaporean citizen.

## SUPREME

From Page 3

At the preliminary hearing, the lead detective testified that Frink, while alone with the victim in a hotel room, pushed her down on the bed, prevented her from escaping, and engaged in sexual intercourse with her

despite her requests for him to stop. The Supreme Court concluded that the Superior Court improperly discounted this evidence.

The decision instructs the Superior Court to evaluate the case again according to the correct legal standard. A probable cause finding would permit the prosecution to continue with the case. **(PR)**



# Tinian honors fallen heroes with unveiling of monument

The island of Tinian paid tribute to servicemembers who have fallen in the line of duty with the unveiling of the Fallen Soldier Monument at the Tinian Veteran’s Memorial Park last Monday, May 29, 2023, during a solemn Memorial Day ceremony.

Tinian leaders, lawmakers, military guests, veterans, community members, and families of fallen heroes gathered at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park at 10am for the unveiling, which showed an



The island of Tinian pays tribute to servicemembers who have fallen in the line of duty with the unveiling of the Fallen Soldier Monument at the Tinian Veteran’s Memorial Park last Monday, May 29, 2023, during a solemn Memorial Day ceremony.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

upside-down firearm topped with a helmet and a pair of combat boots.

Tinian Mayor Edwin P. Aldan expressed sincere appreciation for the service and sacrifice of fallen heroes and their families and stated that the

memorial project was funded by the 23rd Tinian and Agui-guan Legislative Delegation.

“This project stands as a powerful testament to the unwavering courage and selflessness of our fallen soldiers, and a small token of our gratitude and immense appreciation for the continued service and sacrifice of our brothers and sisters in the U.S. Armed Forces. This tribute also expresses our appreciation to the families of our servicemembers that have allowed their loved ones to join the fight for the greater good of our nation,” he said.

Aldan also acknowledged the Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 5, and Lt. Anthony Anason, the officer in charge of NMCB 5. “Since they’ve been on Tinian, they have be-



The Fallen Soldier Monument at the Tinian Veterans Memorial Park.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

come a fundamental part of our community and great partners of the municipality, assisting where they are needed.”

Anason expressed appreciation for being made a part of the Memorial Day ceremony

on Tinian. Together with Lt. Joseph Plunkett, they extend their gratitude for the enduring partnership with Tinian and the entire Marianas.

Plaques were also presented to the NMCB 5, followed by the laying of wreaths.

The event was also attended by Commonwealth Bureau of Military Affairs special assistant Daniel I. Aquino. The Tinian Junior Senior High School’s Stallion Battalion Color Guard performed the posting of colors. Fr. Brigido Bagunas led the invocation.

Before the ceremony ended, the Tinian Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, along with the Department of Public Safety, performed a water salute and memorial sirens. *(Saipan Tribune)*

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**Richard V. Salas**  
Director, DCRM

## MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Governor David M. Apatang through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 10:00AM** at the DCRM Learning Center, Suite 301, Gualo Rai Center II, on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Virtual public participation will continue and encouraged via video conferencing through Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/6706648315> or join via telephone by calling the DCRM office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance and most updated information as Zoom meeting access code may change.

### AGENDA

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
  - A. Call to Order
  - B. Roll Call
  - C. Adoption of Agenda
  - D. Adoption of May 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW**
  - 1) CRM Permit Application No. CRM-MS2022-0006**

Project: SUGAR DOCK RECONSTRUCTION & DREDGING PROJECT Applicant: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS(Action Agency) & DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (Owner)

*he Departments of Public Works (DPW) and Public Lands (DPL) are proposing to reconstruct the Sugar Dock and boat launching ramp facilities to include dredging. The project is situated on public land identified as Lot No. 058 H 02 in Susupe, Saipan.*

    - a. Agencies' Discussions
    - b. Agencies' Final Determination
  - 2) CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2003-X-007-A1**

Project: DEMOLITION & RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMUTER TERMINAL BUILDING Applicant: COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

*The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is proposing to demolish the existing commuter terminal building to construct a new building within the same footprint of the original building. The project is situated on CPA's property identified as Lot No. 028 K 11.*

    - a. Agencies' Discussions
    - b. Agencies' Final Determination
- IV. OTHER MATTERS**
  - 1) Adoption of proposed amendments to NMIAC Chapter 15-10 to amend the DCRM Permitting Fee Regulations.
  - 2) Authorization for DCRM Director to promulgate proposed regulation amendments.
- V. ADJOURNMENT**

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ RICHARD V. SALAS  
Director, DCRM

**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**  
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**  
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 | Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit their qualifications and bid proposals and their qualifications for the **FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT PASSENGER LOADING BRIDGES 1, 4 AND 5 REPLACEMENT, AIP NO. 3-69-0002-100, SAIPAN, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS.**

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: *“Passenger Loading Bridges 1, 4 and 5 Replacement for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Saipan, CNMI, AIP No. 3-69-0002-100”* and submitted no later than **2:00 p.m., FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to replacement of three existing passenger boarding bridges at Gates 1, 4, and 5 with new apron-drive bridges at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, including all associated work in accordance with the Project Drawings and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA). The Contract provides that the Contractor shall invoice for labor and materials for passenger boarding bridge replacement at Gate 1 separately from the invoice for passenger boarding bridges replacement at Gates 4 and 5 (which may be invoiced together).

The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Contract Documents including plans, specifications and the bid schedule, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon the payment of **TWO HUNDRED FIFTY U.S. DOLLARS (\$250.00)** for each set of bid documents in electronic format (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable unless bids are cancelled. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bidders should notify Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at [wprater@cnmiports.com](mailto:wprater@cnmiports.com) immediately if there are issues retrieving the files on the DVD. Bidders should also verify all information using the specification table of contents and the index of drawings.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 a.m., FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023**, at the Saipan Airport Conference Room, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Attendance is not mandatory. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. For site visits after the pre-bid conference, bidders are to coordinate with Ms. Wendi Prater, CPA's Executive Assistant/Project Manager at email address [wprater@cnmiports.com](mailto:wprater@cnmiports.com) or telephone number (670) 237-6500.

Questions should be submitted in writing to the CPA Executive Director's Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at [wprater@cnmiports.com](mailto:wprater@cnmiports.com), at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date; with the exception of bid submission extension requests which have no deadline. Responses to all questions and requests for information will be provided to all bidders who purchased the bid documents and attended the pre-bid conference.

Bidders shall use the bid schedule form furnished on the DVD. Each bidder should also supply all supplemental information required in the specifications.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **FIVE HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX (526)** calendar days for all three bridges. Liquidated damages in the amount of **ONE THOUSAND (\$1,000.00) U.S. Dollars** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are “responsive and responsible.” This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be “responsive or responsible”, their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-enter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-28 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:**

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

Date: May 16, 2023





Never satisfied until you are

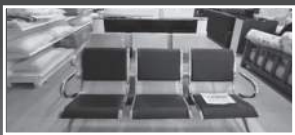
## NEW ARRIVAL

G24 & G26 G.I. ROOFING TIN  
SECURITY DOOR, G.I. PIPES,  
G.I. SQUARE TUBE,  
G.I. C CHANNEL & Z CHANNEL,  
2x4 RECTANGULAR TUBE,  
SHORING JACK, OFFICE TABLE  
AND CHAIR, US MADE WATER  
HEATER, TEMPERED GLASS  
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TEL: (670) 288-2288/2289/6688  
FAX: 288-4488

E-mail: guangdong\_hardware@163.com

**BUSINESS HOURS:**  
**Monday to Saturday**  
**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**



# Registration for NMC's fall 2023 semester ongoing

Individuals who are looking to further their education or advance their professional career are encouraged to register for Northern Marianas College's upcoming fall 2023 semester, which begins on Aug. 21, 2023.

Applications for admission and other forms may be filled out and submitted online at [www.marianas.edu/discovernmc](http://www.marianas.edu/discovernmc). Hard copy applications may be picked up at NMC's Office of Admissions and Records



located in Building N at the NMC As Terlaje campus.

Supporting documents (i.e. transcripts from institutions previously attended, health evaluation form, and copy of a valid photo I.D.) must be turned in within 60 calendar days of submitting the admission application. These requirements can be sent via email to [admissions@marianas.edu](mailto:admissions@marianas.edu).

Individuals who need financial aid can also apply for the Federal Student Aid program,

which provides financial assistance to those who meet certain eligibility criteria.

A free information session for NMC's fall 2023 semester will be held on June 14, 2023, at the Olympio T. Borja Library at the college's As Terlaje campus from 5:30pm to 6:30pm. Participants of the info session will qualify to have their application and placement test fees waived for the fall semester, a savings of about \$75.

New students are required to take the Math and English placement tests if they do not meet any of the placement alternatives. A schedule of the placement test dates can be found at [www.marianas.edu/testing-services](http://www.marianas.edu/testing-services). Students can also make an appointment to take placement tests by calling 237-6774. New and readmitted

students must also view the on-line student orientation program in order to register for courses.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including a Bachelor of Science in Education (Concentration in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Rehabilitation and Human Services, or Special Education), Bachelor of Science in Business Management (Concentration in Accounting or without Concentration); Associate of Arts in Business, Associate of Applied Science in Business Administration (Emphasis in Accounting, Business Management, or Computer Applications), Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality Management, Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts (Emphasis in Education, Health and Physical Education, Pre-

Engineering, Social Work, or without emphasis), Associate of Science in Nursing, Associate of Science in Agriculture, Associate of Science in Natural Resource Management, Associate of Applied Science in Criminal Justice, and Associate of Science in Fire Science Technology. The certificate programs at NMC include Basic Law Enforcement, Business Management, Computer Applications, Early Childhood Education, Fire Science Technology, Hospitality Operations, Nursing Assistant, and Small Business Management.

For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6769/70/71/72 or visit [www.marianas.edu/fall2023](http://www.marianas.edu/fall2023). (NMC)



## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055  
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962  
E-Mail Address: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) • Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)

## EXTENSION OF JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03-2023

Opening date: May 08, 2023 Closing date: June 02, 2023

### Location: SAIPAN

Position(s): (1) ARFF Mechanic II  
(1) Custodial-I  
(1) Equipment Operator-I  
(1) General Maintenance-I  
(1) Master Electrician  
(2) Ports Police Trainee

### SALARY

PL 6/1 to 6/12 (\$9.27/hr to \$15.85/hr)  
PL 1/1 to 1/12 (\$7.26/hr to \$12.42/hr)  
PL 4/1 to 4/12 (\$8.41/hr to \$14.38/hr)  
PL 3/1 to 3/12 (\$8.01/hr to \$13.70/hr)  
PL 19/1 to 19/12 (17.48/hr to \$29.90/hr)  
PL 5/1 (\$8.83/hr)

### Location: TINIAN

Position(s): (1) AOA Controller/Ground Maintenance-I  
(1) Custodial-I

### SALARY

PL 5/1 to 5/12 (\$8.83/hr to \$15.10/hr)  
PL 1/1 to 1/12 (\$7.26/hr to \$12.42/hr)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official sealed transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 111-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or CPA Administration Office, Tinian International Airport, or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening, 10-year Criminal History Record Check and 49 CFR Part 1542.209(d) Requirements. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents to the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) or at the Tinian International Airport or Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport is no later than 5:00 P.M. on Friday, June 02, 2023.

Detailed information on qualifications and position descriptions for the above positions may be picked up along with the application form from Monday-Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., except on holidays, at the CPA Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Arrival Terminal or CPA Admin. Office at the Tinian International Airport or at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport. For additional information, please contact the CPA Human Resources Office by email at [lorna.robert@cnmiports.com](mailto:lorna.robert@cnmiports.com) and [hspcialist@cnmiports.com](mailto:hspcialist@cnmiports.com) or by phone at (670)237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.  
PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950  
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: [cpa.admin@pticom.com](mailto:cpa.admin@pticom.com) • WEBSITE: [WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM](http://WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM)

## AMENDED #2 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport "Retail Concession" CPA-RFP-005-23 for: CPA Concession No. RCA-2022-01

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide retail services to the traveling public at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport ("Retail Concession"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide retail services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport for a period of Three (3) years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-005-23 is April 20, 2023, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) by or before 12:00 p.m. (noon) on June 9, 2023, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$50.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Retail Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) by or before 12:00 p.m. (noon) on June 9, 2023, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$50.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

/s/  
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director



## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 | Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962  
Website: [www.cnmiports.com](http://www.cnmiports.com)



## NOTICE TO BIDDERS

The COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit bid proposals and their qualifications for the FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMUTER ACCESS ROAD PAVING, COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS, PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-007-18 (AIP PENDING), for the island of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Commuter Access Road Paving Project", Project No. CPA-SA-007-18 (AIP PENDING)** and submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. (CHST), TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read.

The Project, in general, consists of Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Commuter Access Road Paving all in accordance with the plans and specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds from the (FAA) Federal Aviation Administration. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within ninety (90) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Contract Documents including plans, specifications, and the bid schedule, can be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, beginning 1:00 p.m., Monday, June 5, 2023, upon the payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY U.S. DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of plans and documents. The payment is nonrefundable unless bids are canceled. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bidders should notify CPA's point of contact mentioned below immediately if there are issues retrieving the files on the DVD and are to verify all information using the specification table of contents and the index of drawings.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at **10:00 A.M. (CHST), MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023**, at the Saipan Airport Conference Room to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Attendance is not mandatory. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference.

Questions should be submitted in writing to the CPA Executive Director's Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at [wprater@cnmiports.com](mailto:wprater@cnmiports.com) at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date; with the exception of extension requests which have no deadline. Responses to all questions and requests for information will be provided to all bidders who purchased a DVD and attended the pre-bid conference.

Bidders shall use the bid schedule form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority on the DVD. Each bidder should supply all supplemental information required in the specifications.

The contract period for construction of the project shall be **TWO HUNDRED TEN (210) CALENDAR DAYS**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **FIVE HUNDRED U.S. DOLLARS (\$500.00)** per calendar days shall be assessed the contractor if the completion of the Project is delayed beyond the contract time without excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-enter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-28 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

In addition to the above, all bidders shall comply with all other Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government wide Debarment and Suspension and Governmentwide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:**

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director

Date: May 31, 2023



# Rota Resort owner’s appeal vs lease termination still pending

## NRCS urges sponsors to submit program funding requests

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—The U.S. Department of Agriculture is encouraging local sponsors to submit project requests for funding through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service administers the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, which responds to emergencies created by natural disasters. It is not necessary for a national emergency to be declared for an area to be eligible for assistance.

The EWP Program is a recovery effort aimed at relieving imminent hazards to life and property caused by floods, fires, windstorms, and other natural disasters. All projects must have a project sponsor. NRCS may bear up to 75% of the eligible construction cost of emergency measures (90% within limited-resource areas as identified by the U.S. Census data). The remaining costs must come from local sources and can be in the form of cash or in-kind services. EWP is designed for installation of recovery measures to safeguard life and property as a result of a natural disaster. Threats that the EWP Program addresses are termed watershed impairments. These include, but are not limited to debris-clogged waterways, unstable streambanks, severe erosion jeopardizing public infrastructure, wind-borne debris removal, and damaged upland sites stripped of protective vegetation by fire or drought.

Funding is available for new projects as well as those already submitted to NRCS. NRCS will give additional consideration to projects in historically underserved communities that directly benefit limited resource areas or socially disadvantaged communities. NRCS will continue to review as funding is available. Eligible project sponsors include state government entities, local municipalities, conservation districts, and federally-recognized tribal organizations. Sponsors are encouraged to reach out to their local District Conservationist see contact information above and/or their state’s/territorial NRCS Watershed program manager John Mathews John.mathews@usda.gov or (808) 600-2922 with watershed concerns as soon as possible to ensure their project request is in the funding queue for consideration. *(PR)*

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The appeal of the owner of Rota Resort and Country Club against the decision of the Department of Public Lands to terminate its 1989 lease agreement remains pending before DPL’s administrative hearing officer.

In response to *Saipan Tribune’s* inquiry, DPL Secretary

Teresita A. Santos said Tuesday that the status quo remains, which means the issue has yet to be resolved.

“As we speak, DPL surveyors are on Rota to conduct As Built Surveys on the premise to determine whether the public and private lands are situated on the same,” Santos said.

As-Built Surveys refers to formal documentation of exactly how a project was built

during construction.

The owner of Rota Resort filed the appeal with DPL’s administrative hearing officer Ramon S. Dela Cruz after DPL issued a notice of violation to the resort owner and terminated the lease.

When asked for comments, Colin Murphy Thompson, who is counsel for Hee Kyun Cho of the Rota Resort LLC, which owns the resort, told

*Saipan Tribune* in an email Tuesday that the parties in the case are working on a set of stipulated facts pursuant to the hearing officer’s last order.

“I will let you know as the case develops,” said Thompson when asked what Rota Resort’s arguments are in appealing the DPL’s decision.

Last March 8, the DPL secretary sent a notice of termination and violation to Cho for alleged abandonment of the premises and non-payment of \$639,879 in lease and interest fees.

Santos gave Cho 30 days from the receipt of the notice

of termination to remit the full payment of \$639,879, which according to her, the company owes DPL in lease and interest fees from July 1, 2020 to Feb. 28, 2023.

Santos stated in the notice that DPL inspected the Rota Resort property on Nov. 2, 2022, and found that the premises, including the golf course and hotel buildings, were in disrepair, blocked for access with chains and padlocks, and not open for business as of that date.

She said that DPL’s follow-up inspection on Feb. 6, 2023, found that the premises had not reopened for business since the previous inspection.

## SIS alumna named to Dean’s List at University of St. Andrews

Anika Snyder, who is a member of the Class of 2020 of Saipan International School, has been named to the Dean’s List at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

In order to be named to the Dean’s List, students must have a credit-weighted mean for the year at 16.5 of above, which is intended to honor high intellectual achievement across the entire spread of a student’s modules in a given year. The award will be included in the Higher Education Achievement Report (transcript) of the student’s studies at the university.

The University of St. Andrews was ranked the No. 1 university in the United King-



Snyder

dom for 2023 by the Guardian University Guide, ahead of Oxford and Cambridge for the first time. It is the oldest of the four ancient universities of Scotland and the third-oldest university in the English-speaking world. St Andrews was founded in 1413.

Anika is studying BSc (Honors) Ecology and Conservation. It is a four-year course run by the School of Biology. This year, Snyder’s studies shifted from core, broad-themed modules to more specialized modules that allow students to prepare for their honors degree. Next year, she will continue specific through student-led, inquiry-based learning on the topic of rapid evolution.

Snyder will investigate the rapid evolution of a cricket species in Hawaii, causing it to lose the ability to produce sound as a response to a parasite. However, the gene that causes the wing to lose the ability to make sound has also been linked to higher immune response in *Drosophila* flies. In theory these crickets also have a higher immune response and she is testing this theory.

This summer Snyder will return to Saipan where she will work in a summer internship with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, hosted by the Division of Coastal Resources Management, where she will learn more about the local coastal and coral programs. *(PR)*



**PUTI’ON TWIN HULL**  
**NOTICE OF AUCTION/BIDDING**  
**MINIMUM BID: \$25,000.00**  
**Year: 1984; Official No. 677731; Call Sign: WCZ5662; Service: Passenger**  
**Hull Material: Wood; Horsepower: 530; Propulsion: Diesel**  
**Gross Tonnage: 99 GRT; Net Tonnage: 85 NRT; Length: 83.6; Breadth: 30.0; Depth: 11.0**

**For more information**

Pursuant to the Stipulated Judgment in *Commonwealth Ports Authority v. Saipan Sea Ventures, Inc.*, Civ. No. 18-0498, notice is given of the auction of the vessel owned by Saipan Sea Ventures, Inc., to be sold at auction by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Risk of loss remains with Saipan Sea Ventures, Inc. until the winning bidder’s bid is approved by the Commonwealth Superior Court after which time the winning bidder shall assume ownership and responsibility for the vessel. By submitting a bid and if accepted, the winning bidder agrees to accept full risk and responsibility of the vessel once approved by the Commonwealth Superior Court, including compliance with CNMI and Federal/USCG laws and regulations.

Please contact Commonwealth Ports Authority counsel, Robert T. Torres at (670) 234-7859/234-5750, Email: robert.torres@rttlaw-group.com. **Minimum bid for the Puti’on Twin Hull is \$25,000.00.** Any bid(s) less than the minimum bid will be rejected. Bid submissions will be closed at 4:30 pm on **June 22, 2023**. Bid(s) opening shall be at 4:30 p.m. on **June 23, 2023**. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any and all offer(s). A “Puti’on Twin Hull” bid form can be obtained from the Commonwealth Ports Authority, through its Counsel at Robert T. Torres Law Office, Chalan Kiya P.O. Box 500730 CK Saipan, MP 96950.

- Bid Instructions**
- This is a private auction/bidding on behalf of the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidding is conducted through the Law Office of Robert T. Torres using a written/sealed bid process. However, the Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any and all offers including any offer not determined to be commercially reasonable. Bids may be sealed and submitted to the Law Office of Robert T. Torres in Chalan Kiya, Saipan with a copy valid Identification Card or Passport.
  - The Puti’on Twin Hull is offered for bid and sale and without any warranty or guarantee as to fitness for use and each bidder is on notice to research this specialized and particular unit as a twin hull motor craft and the conditions in which it may be used in the CNMI or in other locations.
  - If a bid is accepted, the winning bidder shall tender the full amount upon notice and shall be responsible for the removal of the vessel within three (3) working days of court approval. Otherwise, the next highest bidder shall be considered.
  - A winning bid shall be paid by Cash or Cashier’s Check within three (3) working days of notice to the winning bidder. Personal checks/company checks are not accepted. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel the bid and resell/re-auction the unit.
  - Inspection: Any person wishing to inspect the Puti’on Twin Hull may contact the Law Office of Robert T. Torres to request for inspection at least two (2) days prior to inspection.
  - All bids are final.



**NORTHERN MARIANAS COALITION**  
**AGAINST DOMESTIC & SEXUAL VIOLENCE**  
P.O. BOX 506689, SAIPAN, MP 96950  
PHONE: 670.234.3878

The Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence’s (NMCADSV) mission is to promote, nourish, and sustain a collective movement against violence. All applicants must be familiar with and agree with NMCADSV’s mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic violence, sexual assault, and violence of all forms.

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

<b>Position Title:</b>	<b>Program Coordinator</b>
<b>Salary Range:</b>	<b>\$14.00/hr. ~ \$18.25/hr.</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>Full Time, Non-Exempt.</b>
	<b>Full Benefits, including paid leave and health insurance.</b>

**Job Summary**

The Program Coordinator will work with the Executive Director of NMCADSV, Associate Director, and other NMCADSV staff to achieve its mission, goals, and objectives. The Program Coordinator will report to NMCADSV’s Associate Director, assist with the daily operations of NMCADSV, and provide support for NMCADSV’s programmatic activities. The Program Coordinator will plan and execute activities in relation to NMCADSV’s mission and goals, with particular attention to specific activities outlined in corresponding grant applications.

**Duties**

- Confers with and reports to the Associate Director
- Assists with the coordination of all NMCADSV activities, including training and program development.
- Assists with development of presentation and training materials.
- Conducts presentations and assists with training events.
- Develops and executes community outreach and education activities.
- Assists with program evaluation.
- Maintains relationships and works collaboratively with a variety of organizations.
- Builds and maintains partnerships with community organizations and government agencies.
- Works with community organizations and government agencies to identify and address training needs.
- Attends all meetings (virtual or in-person) as assigned.
- Travels to national and inter-island meetings and conferences, as required or requested.
- Assists in grants management, including the preparation of application packets, gathering data for reports, and preparing reports.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

**Minimum Qualifications**

- An agreement with NMCADSV’s mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of domestic and sexual violence
- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Experience with community organizing and/or outreach
- Experience planning and executing events
- Demonstrated proficiency in written and oral communication
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office Applications and Google Applications
- Ability to manage multiple tasks and deadlines
- Ability to work some nights and weekends
- Experience with assessments and analysis
- Must be able to travel within the CNMI and US Mainland

**Highly - Desired Qualifications**

- Experience working in social justice or working directly with survivors of domestic violence and/or sexual assault.
- Knowledge of dynamics of sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- Knowledge of and commitment to culturally relevant, empowerment, and strength-based strategies for eliminating sexual violence and/or domestic violence.
- 1 year or more of documented experience/work with non-profit organizations or volunteerism
- Own transportation, with documented insurance, registration, and a valid driver’s license.

**How to Apply (Deadline: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 at 5:00 PM)**

A Resume and Cover Letter should be submitted on or before 5:00 PM on Wednesday, June 21, 2023. Provide a list (not copies) of any certifications or awards. Late and incomplete submissions will not be considered. Resumes, cover letters, and other documents may be emailed to info@endviolencenmi.org OR delivered to the NMCADSV Office at the Marina Heights I Building in Puerto Rico, Saipan during hours of operation OR mailed to NMCADSV postmarked on or before the deadline.

Applicants who are asked to interview will be asked to bring a copy of their Diploma(s) or equivalent, Police Clearance (dated within 30 days), valid Passport, and a list of references. NMCADSV is an equal opportunity employer. Individuals from under-served communities are encouraged to apply.

This project is supported by Grant No. 15JOVW-21-GG-00717-MUMU awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, US Department of Justice and Grant No. 2201MPSDVC awarded by the Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication/proposal/exhibition are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the US Department of Justice or the US Department of Health and Human Services.



# Opinion

Hafa Adair

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## If Missouri public schools teach Bible classes, whose version of religion rules?

**M**issouri legislators have adopted yet another solution in search of a problem. They've passed a bill—and sent it to Gov. Mike Parson to sign (he shouldn't)—that would allow public schools to offer elective courses on the Bible.

This isn't the first time lawmakers have attempted this, even though there seems to be no prohibition against teaching about scripture in public schools. In fact, there can be value in that. What is—and should be—prohibited is teaching that promotes a particular religion. People are right to be suspicious that backers of this Missouri legislation are simply trying to slide the Christian camel's nose under the public school tent as an initial way of advancing that faith tradition.

Sponsors of the bill may not realize it, but for almost two decades, educators have had available quality, constitutionally appropriate material to use when teaching students about the Bible and its influence. Those resources have come from the 501(c)(3) nonprofit Bible Literacy Project and have been used in hundreds of public schools in dozens of states. Why not just suggest parents and schools investigate this respected resource—recognizing, however, that even it doesn't deal with other sacred texts that helped shape America, such as the Book of Mormon?

The Missouri bill at least pays lip service to the idea of not proselytizing in public classrooms. As the online summary of the bill notes: "This act requires that any course offered shall follow applicable laws maintaining religious neutrality, and shall not endorse, favor, promote, or show hostility to any particular religion, nonreligious faith, or religious perspective."

That summary also says that any elective social studies course need not be limited to using the Bible—either the Jewish or Christian versions. But that's far from encouraging students to explore the influence on society of Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist or other sacred writings.

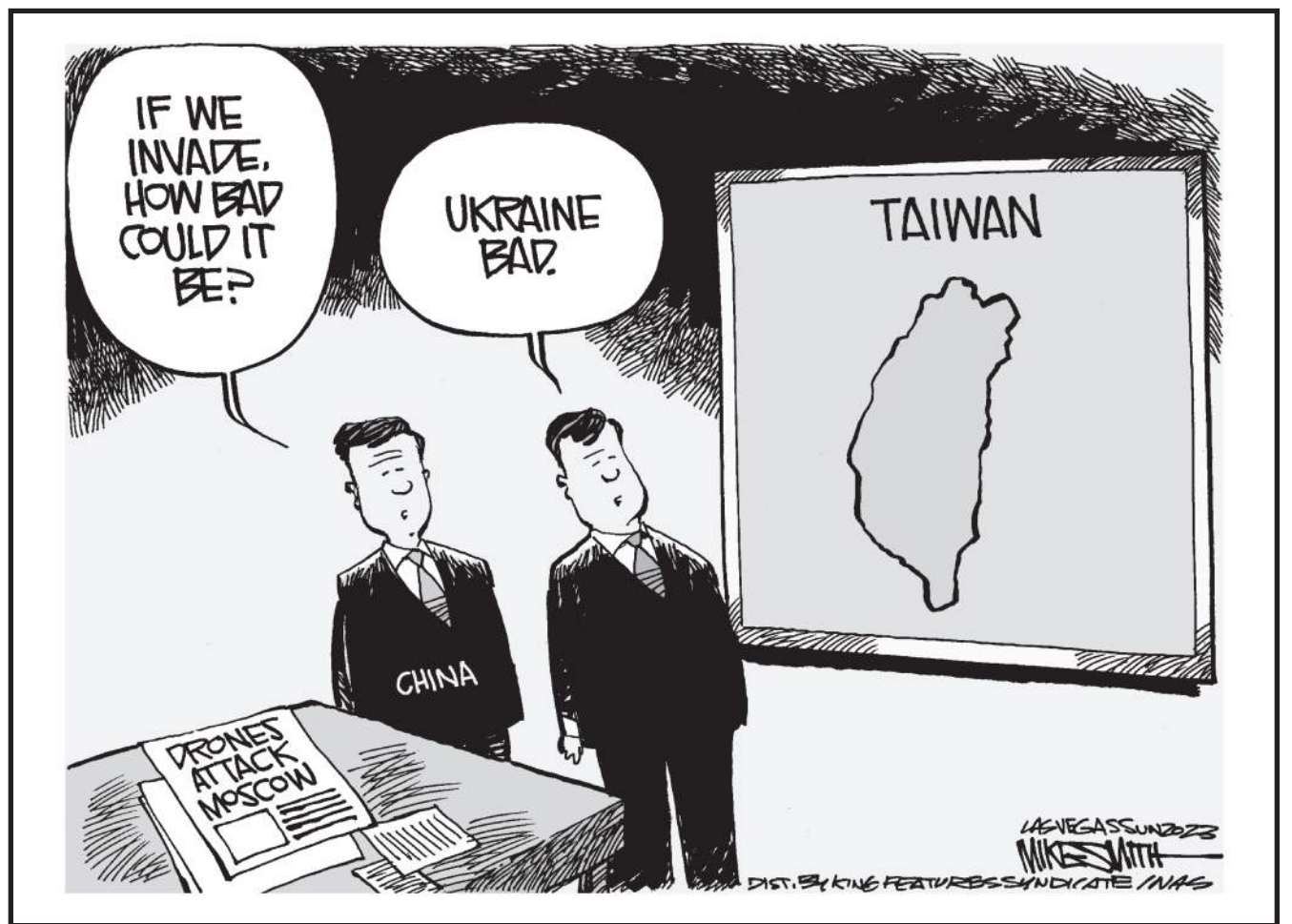
There are many good reasons for students to be familiar with the Bible, given that it's been so influential in U.S. history. Beyond that, of course, our language and literature are full of biblical references ("go the second mile," "Good Samaritan laws," "the patience of Job" and more) that will mean nothing to students without at least an introductory look at the book's influence.

In a nation in which the religious landscape has been changing rather dramatically over the last 50-plus years, basic religious literacy is important. It's exactly what such groups as the Greater Kansas City Interfaith Council promote as a way of living in peace in a society that's becoming more religiously diverse, including a fast-growing number of religiously unaffiliated people.

But focusing on just one sacred text—even if a rapidly-shrinking majority of Americans still identify as Christian—is an incomplete answer. In fact, public school teaching that uses only the Bible can be problematic in various ways.

Which translation should be used? (There are dozens, and sometimes they offer conflicting English versions of the original Hebrew, Greek and Aramaic.) Whose interpretation

See IF on Page 9



## How does your favorite presidential candidate feel about hitting children?

**F**ew commentators give South Carolina Sen. Tim Scott much hope of overtaking Donald Trump in the race for the Republican nomination for president—or of even polling above single digits.

They're probably right. But it might be a mistake to discount too quickly the articulate passion that Scott displayed last week during his formal announcement of his presidential run. Like Trump, Scott knows instinctively how to connect with, flatter and rev up his audience, essential political skills that Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis, for example, struggles with.

Much of Scott's speech was traditional political boilerplate, short on substance but customary for a campaign launch: We live in a "land of opportunity"; "There is dignity in all work"; "America is the greatest nation on God's green earth"; and so on.

Scott brought his mother onto the stage—"Thank God for a good mama!"—and praised her for raising him and his brother under difficult circumstances, enabling his successful rise from poverty to the U.S. Senate, which is a fine backstory for a potential president.

But one line from his speech made me cringe a bit: Scott believes in hitting children.

When Scott was a freshman in high school, he failed four subjects: Spanish and English, world geography and civics. He said that his mother was a "tireless encourager," but when she saw his report card, "she introduced me to a different form of encouragement."

Scott turned profile to the audience and, indicating his posterior, said, "It was applied from right about here ... all the way down to here," indicating his ankles. Scott says that he never failed another course.

Scott's spanking riff reinforced his connection with his audience, which responded with a knowing laugh, as if the virtues of spanking are a punchline to a joke known by all adults but kept hidden from the children.

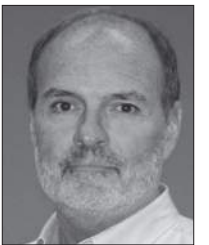
But spanking, in any form, is actually a terrible way to discipline children. The results of many studies are echoed in a 2018 position taken by the 67,000 pediatric experts who make up the American Academy of Pediatrics. The AAP strongly recommends the abolishment of all corporal punishment for children, arguing that not only is it ineffective, but it contributes to other long-term problems, such as fearfulness, aggression and various other undesirable behaviors.

Some countries have banned corporal punishment for children,

Spanking, in any form, is actually a terrible way to discipline children.

By **JOHN M. CRISP**  
Tribune News Service

John M. Crisp, an op-ed columnist for Tribune News Service, lives in Texas and can be reached at jcrispcolumns@gmail.com.



and in America the trend is toward less spanking. But we're still a country where just about the only citizens we can strike with impunity are mixed martial artists, boxers and children.

Americans are fairly committed spankers, however, and if 67,000 pediatric specialists are unable to sway our views much on spanking, this column is unlikely to.

But Scott's speech got me thinking about the connection between the ordinary business of the presidency—budget, law

enforcement, foreign affairs—and the personal attitudes and character of the president.

Is it important that a significant political figure is able to stoke his campaign by describing an act that even spanking's apologists would say goes too far?

Scott wasn't a nonverbal toddler; he was a freshman in high school. And since no "spanking" from backside to ankles is administered with an open palm, is Scott giving American parents permission to use a switch or belt? Isn't that what "good mamas" do? And isn't he also blurring the dubious distinction between a spanking and a beating?

All presidential candidates' attitudes toward children are relevant to their presidencies. And since these days all Republican politics point toward Donald Trump, one wonders if we should have paid less attention to his hazy, ill-defined policies and more to his attitudes toward children, women, Muslims and the inhabitants of certain types of undeveloped countries.

As recently as his May 10 CNN town hall, Trump said that he is still willing to submit frightened children to the traumatic experience of forced separation from their parents in order to stem illegal immigration. There's only one word for this policy: cruelty.

In the presidency, character matters as much as policy. And there's no better index on our character than how we treat children.



**EDITORIAL POLICY**

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

## Let more prisoners take college classes

When Carrie C. is released from Missouri Department of Corrections' Chillicothe Correctional Center, she will be leaving with more than just the clothes she was wearing when she entered. She'll be carrying a college degree.

Carrie was a ninth-grade high school dropout who couldn't even remember how to do division problems. Today she is on the Dean's List with a 3.9 GPA. She is one of hundreds of students at the state prison for women to attend college classes, through a partnership between Ashland University and the Missouri DOC. And she is one of thousands of prisoners who have earned a degree through the U.S. Department of Education's Second Chance Pell Grant Experiment.

Even a few short years ago, the idea of providing access to college in prison was controversial. But now, after a multiyear bipartisan effort led to the repeal of the ban of Pell grants to the incarcerated, the debate over whether colleges and universities should be allowed to offer programs in prison is settled. The main question now: how can these institutions offer education at the scale needed to meet the demand while maintaining the academic quality that transforms lives?

One study found a 43% reduction in recidivism rates for incarcerated individuals who participate in prison education programs. The more education they received, the more likely it was that they would not return.

Still, there are many challenges that corrections agencies, colleges, and universities must overcome. First, college in prison programs are not distributed evenly across the country. The Alliance for Higher Education in Prison estimates that more than one in three prisons with college programs are located in the south. Colleges and corrections agencies must win approval, gain accreditation and build programs. They must set aside classrooms, recruit students and faculty, design student services and supports, and begin teaching—all of which takes time, money and leadership.

Second, as Charlotte West of Open Campus has reported, available information and understanding about Pell grants varies widely from prison to prison. And third, Pell grants availability does not automatically mean that every prison will now have a college program.

To have even a shot at receiving an education, prisoners must first be incarcerated at facilities that offer a college program and that participate in the Pell Grant experiment or some other funding mechanism. They must have a sentence that meets DOC's rules for having access to higher education. Other conditions and restrictions apply.

Given the proven benefits of affording prisoners with access to college classes, we can and should do everything possible to break down these barriers. We must make sure our platforms are delivering the tools that students need at a cost that students and colleges can afford. We need to provide reliable and predictable access to

By **BRIAN WALSH**

Progressive Perspectives

*Brian Walsh, formerly program manager with the nonprofit Vera Institute and a policy associate at the Washington State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, is now director of customer platform, education and reentry at Securus Technologies.*



Wi-Fi and approved educational internet sites across custody levels.

Securus Technologies, a company "dedicated to helping incarcerated individuals transform their lives for a brighter future," at which I work, has endeavored to tackle these challenges, and we have made enormous progress. Our Securus Lantern program is the largest learning management system and digital education program for the incarcerated in the United States. But there's more to do.

Carrie is lucky for the opportunity she had at Chillicothe to obtain a college degree. She will leave driven, focused and determined to succeed. Her main goal is to have a career, not just a job.

There are hundreds of other currently incarcerated individuals who are equally as driven but who lack the opportunity to obtain a higher education. We can do better. College and corrections officials must work with students, faculty, publishers, and technology companies to break down these barriers, brick by brick.

## The future of civic education

Disastrous. There's no other word to describe the state of civic education in the U.S. In the wake of the latest test results released by the National Assessment of Educational Progress it would be hard for anyone to conclude otherwise.

According to the NAEP, just one in three eighth grade students—individuals on the cusp of voting—can describe the structure or function of government. On the whole, barely more than one out of every ten students scored at or above the proficient level.

The worrying state of civic education should have been a crisis thirty years ago—when the first nationwide assessment was administered and students earned an average of a mere 259 points out of 500 (on the most recent test, students averaged 258). Though such a long spell of inadequate attention to civics may suggest that renewed attention to teaching the fundamentals of our democracy is too little, too late—to give up on civic education is to give up on our democratic experiment.

The good news is that the horrendous results have already caused an appropriate level of panic—headlines covering the dismal results demonstrate popular concern that we're sowing the seeds of our own democratic demise by leaving the next generation the keys to a governing system they don't understand. It's as if we've left our kids a sports car and neglected to teach them how to drive a stick shift.

Assuming that this panic increases the educational resources paid to civics, the question is how to introduce students to a system that is undergoing a troubling bout of partisanship and gridlock.

Do we emphasize how our democracy should be (civic optimism), how our democracy is (civic cynicism), or how it was (civic memory). A recent experience with a group of elementary students suggests we need a mixture of all three, with an emphasis on civic optimism.

I provided a group of youngsters a tour of the Montana Supreme Court—where I work as a judicial clerk. The group peppered me with questions after I covered the basics of the court.

For the most part they asked questions pulled from the headlines: "What happens when a judge doesn't seem ethical?" "Do judges think about their friends when they make decisions?" "If a judge gets too old, how long can they keep their jobs?" In other words, they seemed to have received an informal civic education grounded in justifiable cynicism—justifiable because few would argue that how our system operates today aligns with how we'd expect it to run under ideal conditions.

Notably, they didn't ask many questions about how our judicial branch and democracy as a whole have changed over time. They also didn't inquire into when, if ever, the issues they heard discussed at the dinner table were less common or, at least, less severe. Absent

By **KEVIN FRAZIER**

The Fulcrum

*Kevin Frazier will join the Crump College of Law at St. Thomas University as an Assistant Professor starting this fall. He currently is a clerk on the Montana Supreme Court.*



having a civic memory—familiarity with the twists and turns of our democracy over time, the students appeared to think that this is how officials and voters have always behaved.

Most importantly, the students didn't bring up any ideas for how to remedy the status quo and develop a more resilient and responsive democracy—the sort of questions that rely on an education in civic optimism.

So while we need to make sure that students understand how to drive our democracy, they must also have the skills and education necessary to decide where they'll steer our grand political experiment.

Civic optimism is hard to teach, hard to test, and hard to measure, but if the next generation isn't asking how we can improve our democracy from an early age, then we'll likely be stuck in neutral.

## Work requirements won't solve labor shortages and do more harm than good

By **CARA BRUMFIELD** and **EMILY ANDREWS**  
PROGRESSIVE PERSPECTIVES

For decades, Republican lawmakers have sought to deny benefits to people experiencing poverty unless they can prove they are either working or actively looking for work. Now those efforts have been ramped into overdrive.

As part of their terms for raising the nation's debt limit and avoiding default, Republicans in Congress are pushing to add or expand work requirements for programs including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), also known as food stamps, and Medicaid.

In advocating for these changes, Republican lawmakers are quick to cite the tight labor market and worker shortages. The idea is: "We need workers now; how about making the work for benefits?" It's a disingenuous argument because the right has consistently sought work requirements regardless of the state of the labor market.

Moreover, a 2021 study from the National Bureau of Economic Research refuted the notion that work requirements in SNAP have a meaningful effect on labor supply. In fact, it found the opposite, that "eliminating work requirements would likely transfer more resources to low-income adults than other programs targeting the same population."

Another study found that work requirements in SNAP had no effects on employment but led to a 53 percent decline in program

participation. So, they do have an impact—just not a good one.

As Washington Post columnist Catherine Rampell recently wrote, "Medicaid work requirements are a solution in search of a problem. Worse than that, they will create significant new problems, particularly among the vulnerable population the policy is supposed to help."

In 2018, as part of a national effort by the Trump administration to get states to condition eligibility for the health insurance program on work, Arkansas implemented work requirements in Medicaid. More than 18,000 beneficiaries lost their health coverage until a federal judge halted the program in 2019.

Work requirements don't lead people into jobs. They cause people struggling with poverty to lose critical benefits because of the paperwork required to fulfill work requirements or receive an exemption from them.

The reality is that millions of workers rely on programs like Medicaid and SNAP because they are paid low wages, have unpredictable schedules, and lack benefits—all of which make it harder to meet the work requirements.

If lawmakers are sincere about increasing labor force participation and economic mobility among people experiencing poverty, they should pursue policies that would help them achieve this goal. State-level paid leave policies have been shown to increase labor force participation, and women with access to paid leave are 40 percent more likely to return to work after giving

birth than those without it.

Affordable and accessible child care increases parents' labor force participation. Policies that support family-sustaining wages and greater control over scheduling would go a long way toward getting people in the workforce and allowing them to stay there. Let's invest in people and policies that create economic security, not just low-wage jobs.

**IF**

From Page 8






of those texts should be given priority? Will the Bible be seen through the eyes of people who say it's "inerrant" in all ways, including the idea that the world was created in six literal 24-hour days? Or should more metaphorical and allegorical interpretations be offered? Should students get a Mainline Protestant, Catholic, Orthodox, Pentecostal or evangelical approach, or one from a branch of Judaism?

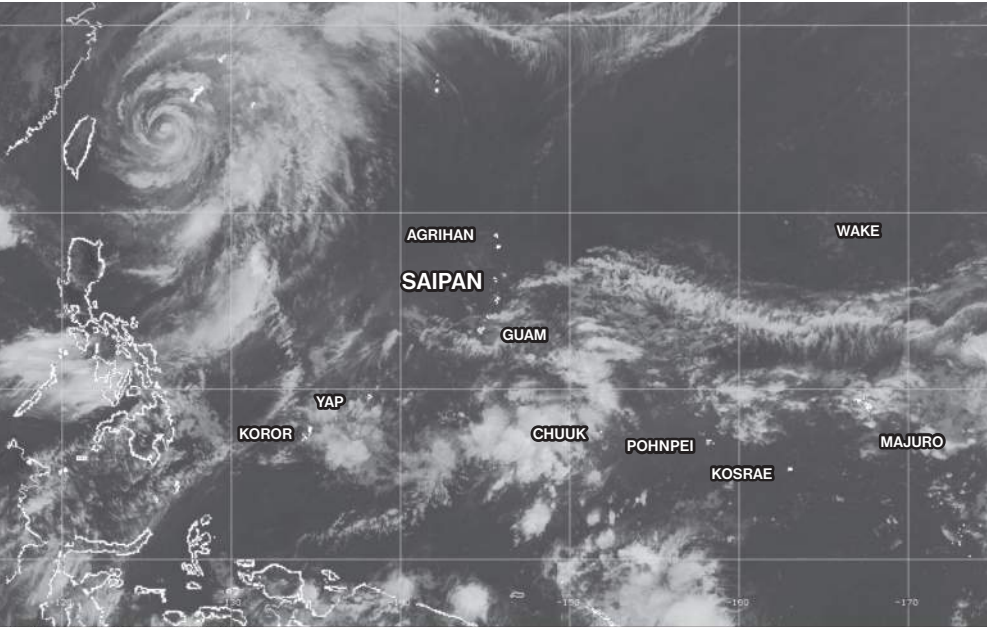
Rabbi Doug Alpert of Congregation Kol Ami of Kansas City is on target when he suggests that it's not the legislature's place to say it's legal to teach about the Bible: "It sounds like they're doing the courts' job." Exactly.

Public school families who want their children taught about the many ways the Bible has influenced our nation and its citizens should be careful how they go about making that happen. Letting Missouri lawmakers set the boundaries is far from the best idea.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY	
									
Scattered showers. Partly sunny		Scattered showers. Partly sunny		A 30 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy		A chance of showers. Mostly cloudy	
85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 8:11 AM, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2023

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

East tread-winds prevail over the islands this morning. Satellite imagery showed only isolated showers over the Marianas. A circulation south of the local area will produce a higher chance of showers over the Marianas the next few days.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°	
Palau	Scattered Thunderstorms	84° / 77°	
Yap	Scattered Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Chuuk	Scattered Thunderstorms	86° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	86° / 76°	
Kosrae	Scattered Thunderstorms	87° / 80°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	84° / 81°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:44 PM
Saturday	5:45 AM	6:44 PM
Sunday	5:45 AM	6:44 PM
Monday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	3:48 AM	4:53 PM
Saturday	-	4:33 AM	5:53 PM
Sunday	-	5:24 AM	6:57 PM
Monday	-	6:21 AM	8:03 PM
Tuesday	-	7:25 AM	9:07 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Rain	64° / 53°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	88° / 63°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	89° / 83°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 73°	
London	Partly Cloudy	68° / 46°	
Los Angeles	Cloudy	70° / 59°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	60° / 51°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	84° / 74°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	81° / 64°	
Osaka	Rain	75° / 66°	
Paris	Sunny	73° / 52°	
Busan	Light Rain	76° / 62°	
Rome	Thunderstorms	80° / 59°	
Salem	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 63°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	65° / 52°	
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	82° / 61°	
Tokyo	Rain/Wind	74° / 67°	
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	85° / 61°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:20 AM	High Tide	2.03	
12:30 PM	Low Tide	0.07	
7:27 PM	High Tide	1.93	
-	-	-	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
UA156	6:55PM	7:40PM	1, 4 effective June 5	UA112	5:00PM	5:50PM	1, 4 effective June 5
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. (The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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# Business

## Docomo Pacific provides Mawar restoration updates

Docomo Pacific, the regional leader in innovation, telecommunications, and entertainment, shared the latest

Typhoon Mawar restoration updates for the CNMI.

"We appreciate your unwavering patience and under-

## GOP get their IRS cuts; Dems expect little near-term impact

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—House Republicans are seeking to make good on their campaign promise to rein in the IRS with cutbacks built into the debt ceiling and budget cuts package moving through Congress.

The bill rescinds \$1.4 billion given to federal tax collector in the Democrats' health and energy package that was approved last year on party-line votes. The White House says the debt deal also includes a separate agreement to take \$20 billion from the IRS over the next two years and divert those funds to other nondefense programs.

Democrats expended a lot of political capital to get the IRS more money last year. They faced an onslaught of campaign ads, many of them misleading, about the expected hiring of 87,000 "new agents" to target low- and middle-class Americans.

Now, Biden administration officials are offering assurances that the spending cuts secured by Republican negotiators will have minimal impact on the agency's operations over the next few years.

The agency is on course to still get nearly three-quarters of the \$80 billion boost that Congress approved for the agency last year. And the agency has the flexibility to spend some of that money sooner than planned, offi-

cials stressed.

"The IRS has the resources it needs in the near term to improve customer service and go after wealthy and corporate tax evaders," tweeted Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo.

But for Republicans looking to win support for the bill, the spending cuts for the IRS represent a critical selling point. The first bill that House Republicans passed this year would have rescinded most of the extra dollars Congress had approved for the IRS the year before. The bill has gone nowhere in the Democratic-controlled Senate.

As for the debt deal, "what this does is put the IRS at the forefront. We have a down payment in this bill of \$1.4 billion to rescind their enforcement hiring this fiscal year. In the appropriations process, we'll come back for more," said Rep. Patrick McHenry, R-N.C., one of the lead GOP negotiators.

In April, agency leaders released details on how the agency would use the \$80 billion infusion for improved operations, pledging to invest in new technology, hire more customer service representatives and expand its ability to audit high-wealth taxpayers. The plan lays out the specifics of how the IRS would allocate the \$80 billion through fiscal year 2031.

## FHB reopens Maite branch after storm

### » Temporarily closes other branches for safety measures

Following Super Typhoon Mawar, First Hawaiian Bank announced that it has reopened its Maite Banking Center at 400 Route 8. The location is open Monday through Friday from 9am to 4pm.

The bank's Dededo and Tamuning branches are temporarily closed as they work through the impacts of the storm. Customers can access their safe deposit boxes at the Dededo Branch during business hours.

As infrastructure is restored, the bank's ATMs are being

brought back into service and the following locations are currently available:

- First Hawaiian Bank Dededo Branch
- First Hawaiian Bank Maite Banking Center
- Agana Shopping Center
- American Grocery
- Guam Regional Medical Center
- Micronesian Mall
- Sumay Payless
- Tumon Bay Center
- Westin Resort

The bank's Mobile app, Online banking, and Customer Service Center remain available to assist customers. Visit [fhb.com](http://fhb.com) or the bank's Facebook and Instagram (@FHBHawaii) pages for the latest updates. **(PR)**



A Docomo Pacific crew gives the thumbs up after working hard to restore the company's services following Typhoon Mawar.

standing during this outage period. It has been a week since Typhoon Mawar struck, and our hardworking technology crews remain committed to fully connecting our islands," said Docomo Pacific in a statement.

### Updated hours of operation:

Docomo Pacific's retail locations and Customer Care hotlines are all open to serve

customers during the following hours of operation:

■ Gualo Rai, Saipan: Monday-Friday: 8am-5pm; Saturday: 9am-1 pm

■ Customer Care Hotline: Monday-Saturday: 8am-8pm; Sunday: 10am-5pm (670-488-CARE) (2273)

■ San Jose, Tinian: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8am-5pm

■ Songsong, Rota: Monday, Wednesday, Friday:

8am-5pm

■ Technical Support available 24/7: 670-488-CARE (2273) (option 2)

### Mobile services:

Docomo Pacific is pleased to inform customers that their entire CNMI Mobile service network is operational.

"The majority of our mobile cell sites did not suffer significant damage due to Typhoon Mawar; with Rota customers receiving the most impact. The primary issue with restoring Rota's network was island-wide power restoration to all our mobile cell sites and cable landing station. Our Rota mobile cell sites and cable landing station are now on island power," it said.

### Fixed services (home/business internet, landlines, and cable TV):

■ To Saipan and Tinian customers: Docomo Pacific's entire fixed services network is online.

■ To Rota Customers: After Docomo Pacific's assessments, there was minimal storm damage to their critical fiber network facility. They are sending more restoration crews that should be arriving on Rota on Friday, June 2, to repair damaged droplines. They encourage customers experiencing service issues or reporting any dropped lines to contact our Customer Care hotline or visit their Rota store.

■ As of June 1, 2023, customers surrounding Sinapalo and the airport have fixed services (home/business internet, landlines, and cable TV). Restoration continues in the Songsong area.

### Temporary disruption of channels:

On May 22, Docomo Pacific publicly announced they were repositioning their satellite dishes to minimize equipment damage from the impending storm. Unfortunately, their assessments show that a few of their satellite dishes were damaged. Due to this, the following channels are currently unavailable:

- ANC
- Arirang
- BRO
- Cinema One
- CNN International
- CTI
- DWRR
- DZMM
- GMA
- KBS World
- MYX
- NHK Premium
- NHK World
- TFC
- Warner TV
- YTN

"Our technology teams are formulating an action plan to get these services restored. Again, we apologize for any inconvenience caused and appreciate your understanding during this temporary disruption," said Docomo Pacific. **(PR)**

## FTC hits Amazon with \$25M fine for violating child privacy with Alexa

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—Amazon agreed Wednesday to pay a \$25 million civil penalty to settle Federal Trade Commission allegations it violated a child privacy law and deceived parents by keeping for years kids' voice and location data recorded by its popular Alexa voice assistant.

Separately, the company agreed to pay \$5.8 million in customer refunds for alleged privacy violations involving its doorbell camera Ring.

The Alexa-related action orders Amazon to overhaul its data deletion practices and impose stricter, more transparent privacy measures. It also obliges the tech giant to delete certain data collected by its internet-connected digital assistant, which people use for everything from checking the weather to playing games and queueing up music.

"Amazon's history of misleading parents, keeping chil-

dren's recordings indefinitely, and flouting parents' deletion requests violated COPPA (the Child Online Privacy Protection Act) and sacrificed privacy for profits," Samuel Levine, the FTC consumer protection chief, said in a statement. The 1998 law is designed to shield children from online harms.

FTC Commissioner Alvaro Bedoya said in a statement that "when parents asked Amazon to delete their kids' Alexa voice data, the company did not delete all of it."

The agency ordered the company to delete inactive child accounts as well as certain voice and geolocation data.

Amazon kept the kids' data to refine its voice recognition algorithm, the artificial intelligence behind Alexa, which powers Echo and other smart speakers, Bedoya said. The FTC complaint sends a message to all tech companies who are "sprinting to do the

same" amid fierce competition in developing AI datasets, he added.

"Nothing is more visceral to a parent than the sound of their child's voice," tweeted Bedoya, the father of two small children.

Amazon said last month that it has sold more than a half-billion Alexa-enabled devices globally and that use of the service increased 35% last year.

In the Ring case, the FTC says Amazon's home security camera subsidiary let employees and contractors access consumers' private videos and providing lax security practices that enabled hackers to take control of some accounts.

Amazon bought California-based Ring in 2018, and many of the violations alleged by the FTC predate the acquisition. Under the FTC's order, Ring is required to pay \$5.8 million that would be

used for consumer refunds.

Amazon said it disagreed with the FTC's claims on both Alexa and Ring and denied violating the law. But it said the settlements "put these matters behind us."

"Our devices and services are built to protect customers' privacy, and to provide customers with control over their experience," the Seattle-based company said.

In addition to the fine in the Alexa case, the proposed order prohibits Amazon from using deleted geolocation and voice information to create or improve any data product. The order also requires Amazon to create a privacy program for its use of geolocation information.

The proposed orders must be approved by federal judges.

FTC commissioners had unanimously voted to file the charges against Amazon in both cases.





# MOUNT CARMEL SCHOOL CONGRATULATES HER GRADUATES

# Class of 2023



**Francine Monique Flores Albuen**  
San Diego State University



**Ohane Sablan Borja**  
Trade Institute



**Kyla Monique Bullan Cabrera**  
University of Hawai'i at Mānoa



**Vidal Jose H. Camacho**  
Northern Marianas College



**Sophia Michelle Gomez Cornelio**  
Northern Marianas College



**Moeisha Eleanor F. Cruz**  
Northern Marianas College



**Lady Vanessa Hideko P. Dancoe**  
Oregon State University



**Leopoldo Lucas DLG. Naraja**  
Boise State University



**Brent Matthew Estacio Ortizo**  
Chapman University



**Manuel Jacinto M. Pangelinan**  
Chapman University



**Kayannie Ilifighar Borja Peter**  
University of California, Irvine



**Leunyce B. Regalado**  
California State University Northridge



**Sierra Rose Merced F. Reyes**  
Northern Marianas College



**Aubriana Maria Afilleje Sablan**  
NMC - NMTI



**Kinamarie Irene M. Dela Cruz**  
Northern Marianas College



**Gerald John Inos Deleon Guerrero, Jr.**  
University of San Diego



**Serafin Ramos Deleon Guerrero II**  
Seattle University



**Carlo Crisdeo Hilario Diaz**  
Northern Marianas College



**Erin Lillian Frink**  
Western Washington University



**Brissa Concepcion Hunter**  
Simmons University



**Clint Allen M. Irang**  
Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University



**Mathew Adrian Ayuyu Sablan**  
Seattle University



**Derek Moritaro S. Sasamoto**  
Gonzaga University



**YuriHana Rosa DLG. Sasamoto**  
Columbia University



**Dahyun Shim**  
Korean University



**Kristan Rose Coldeen Torres**  
University of Oregon



**Allen Iverson D. Vitug**  
Northern Marianas College



**Jun Wang**  
Northern Marianas College



**Raeka Shereen A. Lantini**  
Northern Marianas College



**Dohyun Lim**  
University of Utah



**Jazmyn Phoeme Del Rosario Lopez**  
Northern Marianas College



**Jose John I. Mafnas**  
Northern Marianas College



**Jill Anne Marie O. Mallari**  
University of San Diego



**Donnie James Jr. Calma Militante**  
Chapman University



**Sienna Jade Benavente Muña**  
Northern Marianas College



**William Xue**  
Gonzaga University

## 8th Grade Graduates

\* Wayne Dominic Espeleta Año  
Gabriela Bark  
Kawai'Ana Evonnie Kikku Camacho  
Kesiil Ilana Diaz Camacho  
\* Christine Rosanne N. Castro  
Kevin Cho  
Enzo Minchan Choi  
\* Seung Woo Choi  
Jeffrey George Concepcion  
\* Rafael Elijah Pacheco De Belen  
\* Carly Kate P. Dela Cruz  
\* Christopher James N. Dela Cruz  
\* Kaitlyn Alexza A. Drilon  
\* Serenity Ann Cepeda Fujihira  
Matthew Vincent Villagomez Guerrero  
\* Patrick Villagomez Guerrero  
Jeongwoo Hwang  
Jeein Lee  
Ki Won Lee  
Mikaela Jane T. Lobo  
\* Josephine Lucero Lopez  
\* Justin O. Mallari  
Akoni Chargualaf Matsumoto  
\* Naomi Skye H. Matsumoto  
\* Patricia Ann Matsumoto

\* Hope Gianna McQuay  
\* Maya Elaine McQuay  
\* Sarah Angela Bamba Melchor  
Julio Mellen B. Monserrat  
\* Nicole Angela Simeon Pangilinan  
\* Kaden Christian M. Propst  
\* Iris Malei'a Seman Rasa  
\* Frank Anthony Reyes  
\* Enzo Umeke Deleon Guerrero Sasamoto  
Hiromi Rosa Pangelinan Sasamoto  
Yukiko Kiyomi S. Sasamoto  
\* Stephanie Joyce C. Sevilla  
\* Taher Shakir  
Keanu Silva  
\* Juliana Magan T. Subang  
Kandra Paige Babauta Taisacan  
Christine Doctolero Tamondong  
\* Jose Clarence Tenorio  
Ethan Jayce Hamilton Tomokane  
Pedro Jose N. Tomokane  
\* Jupri Ogo Torres  
\* Sage Ramon Villagomez  
\* Aiden Manuel Tapal Wesley  
Mei Xuan Xu  
\* Chan Seo (Stephen) Yeom  
\* Chan Woong (Henry) Yeom

## Kindergarten Graduates

Adam Lee T. Wesley  
Aleyna Jane Basa Mendiola  
Averyrose Malia Bricia Allen  
Caitlyn Mae Aquinaldo Matsunaga  
Callem Grei S.N. Torres  
Carlos Barcinas Deleon Guerrero  
Castin J. Han  
Cole Hayes Pangelinan  
Cora Belle N. Dela Cruz  
Coral Jade Sablan Aldan  
Davana Raine Cabrera Quitugua  
Emberlee Shae San Nicolas Westbrook  
Emily Yewon Kang  
Erin Rousce Pacheco De Belen  
Ethan Deleon Guerrero Brown

Jaxon Bryce P. Camacho  
Kenneth Grey Coldeen McDonald  
Krey Alexander B. Cabaltica  
Lauren Jaee Flores Kaipat  
Michael Cooper Bermudes Tenorio  
Mikael Zhukovskii  
Nasisa Kabua Demapan  
Renzo Gavriel R. David  
Riaccia Marissa Acosta Manahane  
Riley Paige Celis Duenas  
Stieven Zane Atienza Dimafelix  
Tiana Shaye Borja  
Tsuyoshiro Aries Koyama Halstead Tutii  
Tylor Yejun Kang  
Yzzabella F. Vergel de Dios  
Zun He Wang

\*A member of the National Junior Honor Society













# DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950 • Gualo Rai Center, Saipan  
TEL. NO. 664-8300 FAX NO. 664-8315 • www.dcrm.gov.mp



## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

### As of June 02, 2023

#### THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS	APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Sakura CNMI Corporation dba Sakura Marine Sports	12/29/2022 CRM-MD2022-0005	Temporary Beach Concession	Garapan, Saipan	Minor Development	Approved* 5/23/2023	19. BECO-DCRM	5/19/2023 SS-2023-023	Emergency Removal of Hazardous Metal on the Beach	Garapan, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 5/26/2023
2. Department of Public Works (DPW)	3/10/2023 CRM-MS2023-0006	Sugar Dock Reconstruction & Dredging Project	Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Major Siting	Board Meeting* 6/13/2023	20. Howyo Chi	5/22/2023 SSm-2023-024	Construction of Concrete Slab	San Jose, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review
3. Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA)	3/10/2023 SMS-2003-X-007-A1	Demolition & Construction of Saipan International Commuter Terminal	I Fadang, Saipan	Major Siting	Board Meeting 6/13/2023	21. B&J Corporation dba Dive Y2K	5/30/2023 SLR-2021-053-R3	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
4. Rota Mayor's Office	4/28/2023 RPlm-2023-004	Construction of Restroom Facility	CPA Lot # 014-R-60, Rota	Ports & Industrial	Under Review*	22. Le Grand Bleu, Inc.	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-025	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities & Snorkeling	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
5. Rota Mayor's Office	5/2/2023 RSm-2023-005	Recreational Enhancements	Teteto Beach Strand, Rota	Shoreline	Under Review*	23. Macro Energy, Inc.	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-026	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
6. Saipan Diving World, Inc.	5/9/2023 SLR-2023-013-R2 (Formerly APC2023-0021)	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour/Operations UBA	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review	24. Smart Star, Inc. dba Blue Bay Diving Club	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-027-R2 (Formerly APC 2023-0027)	Commercial SCUBA Diving Tour/Operation - UBA	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
7. Diving Shop Light House, Inc.	5/9/2023 SLR-2023-014	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review	25. Thank You Saipan Corporation	5/30/2023 SLR-2021-051-R3	Commercial Banana Boat, & Parasailing	Kanoa/World Resort Beach to Managaha Island, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
8. Yumiko N. Brundidge dba Naka's Diving Services	5/10/2023 SLR-2023-015	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review	26. Thank You Saipan Corporation	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-028	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation, Helmet Diving & Snorkeling Activities	Saipan & Managaha Dive Sites Only	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
9. Axe Murderer Tours, LLC.	5/10/2023 SLR-2023-039-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review	27. Shim Corporation dba Pro Divers Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-029	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
10. Hiroshi Yamamoto	5/15/2023 RLRm-2023-006	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operations	All Designated Dive Sites, Rota	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*	28. Deep Blue, Inc. dba Deep Blue Diving	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-030	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
11. Rafaelito B. Alvarado	5/12/2023 SLR-202-X-037-R2	Commercial Snorkeling Activities	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/22/2023	29. Saipan A-Venture, LLC. dba Saipan Adventure	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-031	Commercial Snorkeling Activities	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha Island Swim Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
12. Aqua Connections, Inc.	5/15/2023 SLR-2023-016	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA & Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/22/2023	30. BSEA, Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-032	Commercial Banana Boat Operations	Designated Banana Boat Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
13. Saipan Marine Dive Co., LTD dba Saipan Marine Dive	5/16/2023 SLR-2023-017	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/22/2023	31. BSEA, Inc. dba BSEA Sunsports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-033	Commercial Parasailing Operations	Designated Parasailing Zone, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
14. Ulysses Orpiano	5/18/2023 SPIm-2023-018	Dry-Dock	Lowerbase, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved 5/19/2023	32. Big Eye, LLC.	5/30/2023 STLR-2021-035-R3	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
15. Department of Public Works (DPW)	5/18/2023 SW-2023-017 (Formerly SW- 2019-X-049)	Japanese Road Improvement	As Terlaje, Saipan	Wetlands & Mangroves	Under Review	33. Zen Corporation dba Aqua Marine Sports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-034	Commercial Kayaking, Snorkeling, Hobie Cat Sailing, Stand Up Paddle Boarding & Windsurfing Activities	Achugao Beach, Saipan Lagoon & Swim Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
16. Phillip's Corporation, Inc. dba Grotto Snorkeling Tour	5/18/2023 SLR-2023-020-R2 (Formerly APC 2023-0024)	Commercial Snorkeling	Saipan & Managaha Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Approved 5/26/2023	34. Seahorse, Inc. Saipan dba Seahorse Tour	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-035	Commercial Banana Boat, Parasailing, & Water Jet Craft	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
17. Seamark Laolao Corporation dba Eastbay Snorkeling Tour	5/18/2023 SLR-2023-021	Commercial Snorkeling	Grotto, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*	35. Noriko Akari Baiya dba Sakura Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2022-007-R3	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
18. Interpacific Resorts (Saipan) Corporation dba Pacific Islands Club	5/18/2023 SLR-2023-022	Commercial Stand Up Paddle Boarding, Snorkeling, Windsurfing & Sailing	Saipan Lagoon	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review	36. Taotao Marianas, Inc.	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-036	Commercial Banana Boat Operations	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*)

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Nation

## AHEAD OF FINAL REPORT ON UFOs

### NASA talks UFOs with public

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)—NASA held its first public meeting on UFOs on Wednesday a year after launching a study into unexplained sightings and insisted it's not hiding anything.

The space agency televised the four-hour hearing featuring an independent panel of experts who vowed to be transparent. The team includes 16 scientists and other experts selected by NASA including retired astronaut Scott Kelly, the first American to spend nearly a year in space.

"I want to emphasize this loud and proud: There is absolutely no convincing evidence for extraterrestrial life associated with" unidentified objects, NASA's Dan Evans said after the meeting.

Still, hundreds of questions from the public that poured in ahead of time were skeptical and veered into conspiracy theories.

NASA launched the study to probe what it calls UAPs — short for unexplained anomalous phenomena — in the sky, in space or under the sea.

Optical illusions can explain some of this, said Kelly, a former Navy fighter pilot. He recalled a Tomcat flight off Virginia Beach years ago during which his radar intercept officer in the back seat was convinced they'd flown past a UFO.

"It turns out it was Bart Simpson, a balloon," Kelly said. "And in my experience, the sensors kind of have the same issues as the people's eyeballs."

Evans pointed out that the livestream of the meeting led to considerable trolling. That comes on top of "online abuse" directed toward several committee members.

Harassment detracts from the scientific process and reinforces the stigma surrounding the topic, said Evans, adding that NASA security is dealing with it.

"It's precisely this rigorous, evidence-based approach that allows one to separate the fact from fiction," he said.

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### US births in 2022 didn't return to pre-pandemic levels

NEW YORK (AP) — U.S. births were flat last year, as the nation saw fewer babies born than it did before the pandemic, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday.

Births to moms 35 and older continued to rise, with the highest rates in that age group since the 1960s. But those gains were offset by record-low birth rates to moms in their teens and early 20s, the CDC found. Its report is based on a review of more than 99% of birth certificates issued last year.

A little under 3.7 million babies were born in the U.S. last year, about 3,000 fewer than the year before. Because the numbers are provisional and the change was small, officials consider births to have been "kind of level from the previous year," said the CDC's Brady Hamilton, the lead author of the report.

U.S. births were declining for more than a decade before COVID-19 hit, then dropped a whopping 4% from 2019 to 2020. They ticked up about 1% in 2021, an increase experts attributed to pregnancies that couples had put off amid the early days of the pandemic.

More findings from the report:

- The highest birth rates continue to be seen in women in their early 30s. The number of births for women that age was basically unchanged from the year before. Births were down slightly for women in their late 20s, who have the second-highest birth rate.
- Births to Hispanic moms rose 6% last year and surpassed 25% of the U.S. total. Births to white moms fell 3%, but still accounted for 50% of births. Births to Black moms fell 1%, and were 14% of the total.
- The cesarean section birth rate rose slightly, to 32.2% of births. That's the highest it's been since 2014. Some experts worry that C-sections are done more often than medically necessary.
- The U.S. was once among only a few developed countries with a fertility rate that ensured each generation had enough children to replace itself—about 2.1 kids per woman. But it's been sliding, and in 2020 dropped to about 1.6, the lowest rate on record. It rose slightly in 2021, to nearly 1.7, and stayed there last year.
- More complete and detailed 2022 numbers are expected later this year. That data should offer a better understanding of what happened in individual states and among different racial and ethnic groups, Hamilton said.



**DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT**

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## NOTICE OF APPLICATION

### As of June 02, 2023

**THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:**

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
37. Sakura CNMI Corporation dba Sakura Marine Sports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-037	Commercial Banana Boat, Kayaking & Snorkeling	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
38. Sakura CNMI Corporation dba Sakura Marine Sports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-038	Commercial Wakeboard (Towed Floatation) & Water Jet Craft	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
39. JB Corporation dba Saipan Fresh Adventure	5/30/2023 SLR-2020-X-054-R4	Commercial Snorkeling	Saipan & Managaha Island Swim Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
40. Micronesia Resort, Inc. dba Kensington Hotel Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-039	Commercial Sailing, Snorkeling, Stand Up Paddle Boarding & Kayaking Activities	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha Island Swim Zone	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
41. Marianas Trekking, LLC.	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-040	Commercial Kayaking, Canoeing, Stand Up, Paddle Boarding & Snorkeling	Saipan Lagoon & Managaha Island Swim Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
42. United Front Co., Ltd. dba Super Fish Dive	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-041	Commercial Snorkeling & SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
43. World Corporation dba Wave Jungle	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-042	Commercial, Kayaking, Snorkeling, Floaters, Stand Up Paddle Boarding & Windsurfing	Saipan Lagoon & Swim Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
44. Open Knowledge Systems, Inc. dba Let's Go Diving - Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2021-052-R3	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
45. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc dba Big Boyz II Marine	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-043	Commercial Banana Boat, Snorkeling, Kayaking, & Boarding Stand Up Paddle	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
46. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc dba Big Boyz II Marine	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-044	Commercial Parasailing Operations	All Designated Parasailing, Zone, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
47. Big Boy Marine Sports, Inc dba Big Boyz II Marine	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-045	Commercial Water Jet Craft & Jetboard Operations, Kayaking & Helmet Diving	All Designated Parasailing, Zone, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
48. Aqua Del Rey Saipan Incorporation	5/30/2023 SLR-2022-064-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
49. Akhil Chandra Mollick dba Ichiban Marine Sports	5/30/2023 SLR-2021-049-R3	Commercial Water Jet Craft & Parasailing Operations	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
50. Akhil Chandra Mollick dba Ichiban Marine Sports	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-046	Commercial Banana Boat & Wakeboarding (Towed Floatation) Operations, Kayaking & Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
51. Dive Marianas Corporation dba Dive Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-047	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
52. H2M Saipan Corporation dba H2M Saipan Dive Center	5/30/2023 SLR-2022-041-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA Activities	All Designated Dive Sites, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
53. Atty Corporation dba Dive Saipan	5/30/2023 SLR-2023-002-R2	Commercial SCUBA Diving Operation - UBA & Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Dive Sites & Swim Zones, Saipan	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review
54. Aquatic Marine Co., Inc. dba Aquatic Marine Sports	5/31/2023 SLR-2023-048	Commercial Banana Boat & Parasailing (Towed Floatation), Water Jet Craft Operations & Snorkeling Activities	All Designated Zones	Lagoon & Reef	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (\*)

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.



# Asia

## ASIAN BRIEFS

### China demands end to US surveillance flights over South China Sea

**BEIJING (AP)**—Beijing responded Wednesday to complaints from the United States about a Chinese fighter jet's dangerous interception of an American Air Force reconnaissance aircraft in international airspace over the South China Sea by demanding an end to such flights. The incident adds to military, diplomatic and economic tensions between the countries over U.S. support for self-governing Taiwan, China's refusal to engage in dialogue between their armed forces and Beijing's flying of a suspected spy balloon over the U.S. Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told reporters at a daily briefing that China would keep taking measures it deems necessary to safeguard its sovereignty.

"The U.S. should immediately stop these dangerous provocations," Mao said. The U.S. Indo-Pacific Command called the Chinese plane's actions an "unnecessarily aggressive maneuver," adding to complaints that China's military has become significantly more aggressive over the past five years, intercepting U.S. aircraft and ships in the region. China says it owns the South China Sea virtually in its entirety, a claim not recognized internationally and directly challenged by nations along its coast including the Philippines, Vietnam and Malaysia. In a statement Tuesday, the U.S. military said the pilot of the Chinese J-16 fighter jet flew directly in front of the nose of the RC-135 conducting routine operations in international airspace last Friday.

### IAEA in final review of planned discharge of Fukushima nuclear plant water

**TOKYO (AP)**—An International Atomic Energy Agency team arrived in Tokyo on Monday for a final review before Japan begins releasing massive amounts of treated radioactive water into the sea from the wrecked Fukushima nuclear plant, a plan that has been strongly opposed by local fishing communities and neighboring countries. The team, which includes experts from 11 countries, will meet with officials from the government and the plant operator, Tokyo Electric Power Company Holdings, and visit the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant during their five-day visit, the economy and industry ministry said. Japan announced plans in April 2021 to

gradually release the wastewater following further treatment and dilution to what it says are safe levels. The release is expected to begin within a few months after safety checks by Japanese nuclear regulators of the newly constructed water discharge facility and a final report by IAEA expected in late June. The plan has faced fierce protests from local fishing communities concerned about safety and reputational damage. Nearby countries, including South Korea, China and Pacific Island nations, have also raised safety concerns. Japan sought IAEA's assistance in ensuring the release meets international safety standards and to gain the understanding of other countries. Japanese officials say the water will be treated to legally releasable levels and further diluted with large amounts of seawater. It will be gradually released into the ocean over decades through an undersea tunnel, making it harmless to people and marine life, they say.

### N. Korean leader's sister slams US for criticizing failed satellite launch

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**—The powerful sister of North Korean Kim Jong Un on Thursday accused the United States of "gangster-like" hypocrisy for criticizing her country's failed launch of a military spy satellite and insisted a successful launch will be made soon. Kim Yo Jong said North Korea's efforts to acquire space-based reconnaissance capabilities were a legitimate exercise of its sovereign right and restated the country's rejection of U.N. Security Council resolutions that ban it from conducting any launch involving ballistic missile technology. Her comments on state media came a day after the rocket carrying the satellite failed. North Korea said the rocket lost thrust after a stage separation and crashed in waters off the Korean Peninsula's western coast. Washington, South Korea and Japan had quickly criticized the launch. Adam Hodge, a spokesperson at the U.S. National Security Council, said Washington strongly condemns the North Korean launch because it used banned ballistic missile technology, raised tensions and risked destabilizing security in the region and beyond. In her statement, Kim Yo Jong briefly mentioned Hodge's comments before saying the United States "is letting loose a hackneyed gibberish prompted by its brigandish and abnormal

thinking." "If the DPRK's satellite launch should be particularly censured, the U.S. and all other countries, which have already launched thousands of satellites, should be denounced. This is nothing but sophism of self-contradiction," she said, using the initials of North Korea's formal name, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. She noted how the United States closely monitors the North through its own reconnaissance satellites and other aerial assets, calling the Americans a "group of gangsters" who would deem it as "illegal and threatening" had North Korea attempted to send a satellite into space by balloon. "The far-fetched logic that only the DPRK should not be allowed to do so according to the (U.N. Security Council's) 'resolution' which bans the use of ballistic rocket technology irrespective of its purpose, though other countries are doing so, is clearly a gangster-like and wrong one of seriously violating the DPRK's right to use space and illegally oppressing it," she said. "It is certain that the DPRK's military reconnaissance satellite will be correctly put on space orbit in the near future and start its mission," she added.

### Pakistani police say gunmen kill 1 soldier and wound another in attack on polio workers

**MIR ALI, Pakistan (AP)**—Gunmen killed one soldier and wounded another Wednesday when they opened fire on security forces escorting a team of polio workers during a door-to-door inoculation campaign in a former Pakistani Taliban stronghold near the Afghan border, police said. No one immediately claimed responsibility for the attack in North Waziristan, a district in the Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. It came days after the government launched the latest polio eradication campaign, said Aslam Riaz, a police officer in the region. He said the polio workers escaped unharmed and the attackers fled the scene. In 2021, Pakistan was close to eradicating the disease, which can cause severe paralysis in children. But later, cases spiked in the country. Islamic militants often target polio teams and police assigned to protect them, falsely claiming the vaccination campaigns are a Western conspiracy to sterilize children. Pakistan and Afghanistan are the only countries in the world where polio remains endemic.

# World

## Why do Kosovo-Serbia tensions persist?

**BELGRADE, Serbia (AP)**

—Tensions between Serbia and Kosovo flared anew this week after Kosovo's police raided Serb-dominated areas in the region's north and seized local municipal buildings.

There have been violent clashes between Kosovo's police and NATO-led peacekeepers on one side and local Serbs on the other, leaving dozens of people injured on both sides.

Serbia raised the combat readiness of its troops stationed near the border and warned it wouldn't stand by if Serbs in Kosovo were attacked again. The situation has again fueled fears of a renewal of the 1998-99 conflict in Kosovo that claimed more than 10,000 lives and left more than 1 million homeless.

### WHY ARE SERBIA AND KOSOVO AT ODDS?

Kosovo is a mainly ethnic Albanian populated territory that was formerly a province of Serbia. It declared independence in 2008.

Serbia has refused to recognize Kosovo's statehood and still considers it part of Serbia, even though it has no formal control there.

Kosovo's independence has been recognized by about 100 countries, including the United States, Russia, China and five EU countries, most of them with separatist regions of their own, have sided with Serbia. The deadlock has kept tensions simmering and prevented full stabilization of the Balkan region after the bloody wars in the 1990s.

### HOW DID SERBIA'S ALLIES REACT?

Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said the situation in Kosovo was alarming and that it could provoke another conflict in the heart of Europe.

"A huge explosion is being prepared in the center of Europe, in the place where, in 1999, NATO attacked Yugoslavia, violating every imaginable (international) principle," he said, according to Russian state news agency RIA Novosti.

China said that it was closely following the developments.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning urged NATO to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity "of the relevant



In this grab taken from video, a view of a car set on fire as KFOR soldiers clash with Kosovo Serbs in the town of Zvecan, northern Kosovo, Monday, May 29, 2023.

countries and truly do what is conducive to regional peace."

### WHAT'S THE LATEST FLARE-UP ABOUT?

Serbs boycotted last month's local elections held in northern Kosovo, where they are a majority. Last Friday, newly elected ethnic Albanian mayors moved into their offices with the help of Kosovo's riot police.

Serbs tried to prevent the new mayors from taking over the premises, but the police fired tear gas to disperse them.

On Monday, Serbs engaged in fierce clashes with NATO peacekeepers, leaving more than 50 rioters and 30 international troops injured.

The election boycott followed a collective resignation by Serb officials from the area, including administrative staff, judges and police officers, in November 2022.

### WHAT IS NATO DOING IN KOSOVO?

Till this week, some 3,800 NATO troops were stationed in Kosovo, primarily on peacekeeping duties, but also to watch over the borders, especially the one with Serbia where Belgrade has currently been beefing up its troop presence.

NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said Tuesday the alliance had sent 700 more troops to Kosovo to help quell violent protests and had put another battalion on standby in case the riots spread.

### HOW DEEP IS THE ETHNIC CONFLICT IN KOSOVO?

The dispute over Kosovo is centuries old. Serbia considers the region the heart of its statehood and religion.

Numerous medieval Serb Orthodox Christian monasteries are in Kosovo. Serb nationalists view a 1389 battle against Ottoman Turks there as a sym-

bol of its national struggle.

Kosovo's majority ethnic Albanians view Kosovo as their own country and accuse Serbia of occupation and repression. Ethnic Albanian rebels launched a fight to rid the country of Serbian rule in 1998.

Belgrade's brutal response prompted a NATO intervention in 1999, which forced Serbia to pull out and cede control to international peacekeepers.

### HAVE THERE BEEN ATTEMPTS TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE?

There have been constant international efforts to find common ground between the two former wartime foes, but there has been no final comprehensive agreement so far.

EU officials have mediated negotiations designed to normalize relations between Serbia and Kosovo. Numerous agreements have been reached, but were rarely implemented on the ground. Some areas have seen results, like introducing freedom of movement within the country.

### WHO ARE THE MAIN PLAYERS?

Both Kosovo and Serbia are led by nationalist leaders who have shown no readiness to compromise.

In Kosovo, Albin Kurti, a former student protest leader and political prisoner in Serbia, leads the government and is the main negotiator in EU-mediated talks. He was also known as a fierce supporter of Kosovo's unification with Albania and is against any compromise with Serbia.

Serbia is led by populist President Aleksandar Vucic, who was information minister during the war in Kosovo. The former ultranationalist insists that any solution must be a compromise in order to last and says the country won't settle unless it gains something.



# Off The Wall

## Contestants chase cheese wheel downhill in chaotic race

**LONDON (AP)**—The big cheese of extreme U.K. sports events is back.

Hundreds of spectators gathered Monday to watch dozens of reckless racers chase a 7-pound (3 kilogram) wheel of Double Gloucester cheese down the near-vertical Cooper's Hill, near Gloucester in southwest England.

The first racer to finish be-

hind the fast-rolling cheese gets to keep it.

The cheese-rolling race has been held at Cooper's Hill, about 100 miles (160 kilometers) west of London, since at least 1826, and the sport of cheese-rolling is believed to be much older.

The rough-and-tumble event often comes with safety concerns. Few competitors

manage to stay on their feet all the way down the 200-yard (180 meter) hill, and this year several had to be helped, limping, from the course.

Canadian contestant Delaney Irving, 19, won the women's race despite being briefly knocked unconscious.

"I just remember hitting my head, and now I have the cheese," said Irving, who comes from Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Matt Crolla, 28, from Manchester in northwestern England, won the first of several men's races. Asked how he had prepared, he told reporters: "I don't think you can train for it, can you? It's just being an idiot."

Participants compete in the men's downhill race during the Cheese Rolling contest at Cooper's Hill in Brockworth, Gloucestershire, Monday May 29, 2023.



## New York swan babies rescued after mother is eaten by family

By KAREN MATTHEWS  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

The village of Manlius in upstate New York is mourning the loss of Faye, a swan who was stolen from the town's pond over the weekend along with her four cygnets. The cygnets, or baby swans, were recovered, but officials say the mama swan was eaten.

"The mother swan was consumed," Manlius Mayor Paul Whorrall said Wednesday. "Sad to say, but that's what they did."

Three teenagers were arrested Tuesday on charges including grand larceny and criminal mischief in connection with the swan-napping, Manlius police Sgt. Ken Hatter said.

Mute swans like Faye and her mate, Manny, are not native to North America. They were introduced as an ornamental species and are loved for

their beauty but are considered invasive by wildlife officials.

Hunting swans is legal in a few U.S. states but not in New York.

Southeast of Syracuse, the village of Manlius has a swan insignia on its website, as well as on merchandise like hats and T-shirts.

"The swans have been a part of this village for well over 100 years," Whorrall said. "We're known for our swans."

For over a decade, Faye and Manny swanned about in the village pond, and each spring hatched and raised cygnets. In 2010, they were donated by biologist and self-described "swan guru" Michael Bean.

Police said Faye and this year's cygnets went missing on Saturday, but that officials weren't notified until Monday.

### OFFBEAT BRIEFS

**Answered prayers: Tennessee church recovers truckload of organ pipes**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)**—The prayers of a Tennessee church were answered when whoever stole a moving truck near its building didn't keep what they found inside: old organ pipes, and lots of them. Calvary Episcopal Church in downtown Memphis had loaded a Penske truck earlier this month with nearly 2,000 organ pipes for transport to Spencer Organ Company in Boston, where they were to undergo restoration. But the truck was stolen after being loaded. A few days later police found the truck and many of the nearly 90-year-old pipes, but they recovered even more over the weekend, the church told news outlets. The latest recovery came after police got a CrimeStoppers tip on Sunday that led officers to a van that was parked near where they found the truck, the church said. The Memphis Police Department has impounded the van.

**Indian official drains reservoir to retrieve phone he dropped while taking selfie**

**NEW DELHI (AP)**—A government official in India has been suspended from his job after he ordered a water reservoir to be drained so he could retrieve his smartphone, which he had dropped while taking a selfie. Food inspector Rajesh Vishwas dropped his Samsung smartphone in Kherkatta dam in the central Indian state of Chhattisgarh last week, The Times of India newspaper reported. Vishwas first asked local divers to jump into the reservoir to find the device, claiming it contained sensitive government data. But after the initial efforts to retrieve his smartphone failed, he asked for the reservoir to be emptied using diesel pumps. Over the next three days, more than 2 million liters of water were pumped out from the reservoir, which is enough to irrigate at least 1,500 acres of land during India's scorching summer, local media reported.

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude for your presence, support, and kind words during the funeral service of our beloved

*Maria Muna Indalecio*

Your love, warmth, and condolences have provided immense comfort during this difficult time.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to those who offered prayers, gave comforting hugs, and shared stories that brought smiles through tears. Your support has been invaluable as we navigate the journey of grief. Maria's legacy of kindness and compassion lives on through each and every one of you.

During this period of mourning, we find solace in the support of our family and friends. The love we have received has reminded us that we are not alone in our grief. Together, we will find strength in the memories we shared with Maria and the lasting impact she had on our lives.

Once again, we extend our deepest appreciation for your presence, support, and love. Your compassion has provided us with comfort and healing. Let us continue to honor Maria's memory by living lives filled with love, kindness, and compassion.

Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'ase,  
Ghillisow

*The Children of †Maria Muna Indalecio and Family*





# Life & Style

## Danny Masterson convicted of 2 counts of rape, faces 30 years to life

LOS ANGELES (AP)—“That ‘70s Show” star Danny Masterson was led out in handcuffs from a Los Angeles courtroom Wednesday and could get 30 years to life in prison after a jury found him guilty on two of three counts of rape at his second trial, in which the Church of Scientology played a central role.

Masterson’s wife, actor and model Bijou Phillips, gasped when the verdict was read and wept as he was taken into custody, while a group of family and friends who sat stone-faced behind him throughout both trials.

The jury of seven women and five men reached the verdict after deliberating for seven days spread over two weeks. They could not reach a verdict on the third count, that alleged Masterson raped a longtime girlfriend. They had voted 8-4 in favor of conviction.

Masterson, 47, will be held without bail until he is sentenced. No sentencing date has yet been set, but the judge told Masterson and his lawyers to return to court Aug. 4 for a hearing.

“I am experiencing a complex array of emotions—relief, exhaustion, strength, sadness—



Masterson

knowing that my abuser, Danny Masterson, will face accountability for his criminal behavior,” one of the women, whom Masterson knew as a fellow member of the church and was convicted of raping at his home in 2003, said in a statement.

A second woman, a former girlfriend, whose count left the jury deadlocked, said in the statement: “While I’m encouraged that Danny Masterson will face some criminal punishment, I am devastated that he has dodged criminal accountability for his heinous conduct against me.”

A spokesperson for Masterson declined comment, but his attorneys will almost certainly appeal.

After a deadlocked jury led to a mistrial in December, prosecutors retried Masterson, saying he forcibly raped three women in his Hollywood Hills home between 2001 and 2003. They told jurors he drugged the women’s drinks so he could rape them. They said he used his promi-

nence in the church—where all three women were also members at the time—to avoid consequences for decades.

“We want to express our gratitude to the three women who came forward and bravely shared their experiences,” Los Angeles County District Attorney George Gascón said in a statement after the verdict Wednesday. “Their courage and strength have been an inspiration to us all.”

Masterson did not testify, and his lawyers called no witnesses. The defense argued that the acts were consensual, and attempted to discredit the women’s stories by highlighting changes and inconsistencies over time, which they said showed signs of coordination between them.

“If you decide that a witness deliberately lied about something in this case,” defense attorney Philip Cohen told jurors, going through their instructions in his closing argument, “You should consider not believing anything that witness says.”

The Church of Scientology played a significant role in the first trial but arguably an even larger one in the second. Judge Charla F. Olmedo allowed

expert testimony on church policy from a former official in Scientology leadership who has become a prominent opponent.

Tensions ran high in the courtroom between current and former Scientologists, and even leaked into testimony, with the accusers saying on the stand that they felt intimidated by some members in the room.

Actor Leah Remini, a former member who has become the church’s highest-profile critic, sat in on the trial at times, put-

ting her arm around one of the accusers to comfort her during closing arguments.

Remini said on Twitter that the two guilty verdicts in the retrial are “a relief. The women who survived Danny Masterson’s predation are heroes. For years, they and their families have faced vicious attacks and harassment from Scientology and Danny’s well-funded legal team,” she posted. “Nevertheless, they soldiered on, determined to seek justice.”

The alleged harassment, which the church denies engaging in, is the subject of a civil lawsuit filed by two of the accusers.

Founded in 1953 by L. Ron Hubbard, the Church of Scientology has many members who work in Hollywood. The judge kept limits on how much prosecutors could talk about the church, and primarily allowed it to explain why the women took so long to go to authorities.

## Painting looted by Nazis during WWII returns to Poland from Japan

WARSAW, Poland (AP)—A priceless 16th century Italian painting that was looted by Nazi Germany during World War II and discovered in Japan has been returned to Poland, authorities in Warsaw said Wednesday.

The “Madonna with Child” attributed to Alessandro Turchi, is the latest of some 600 looted artistic pieces that Poland has successfully repatriated. More than 66,000 so-called war losses remain unaccounted for. The painting was handed over during a ceremony at Poland’s Embassy in Tokyo Wednesday.

Culture Minister Piotr Glin-ski told reporters in Warsaw that the baroque painting was on the Nazis’ list of the 521 most valuable pieces of art among the tens of thousands of artworks that they looted when they occupied Poland between 1939-45.

He said it was “not easy” to explain the history behind the looted works as well as the need for their return. But he said the “Madonna with Child” was returned following negotiations with the Japanese side and the

“Mainichi Auction Inc. as well as the person who was in possession of the painting have decided to return it to Poland, without any costs.”

Agata Modzelewska, head of the ministry’s department for restitution of culture items, said the Polish side always stresses in negotiations that returning looted art is “the best moral and ethical gesture.”

The painting was identi-

fied by ministry experts at an auction in Tokyo in 2022. It comes from a collection of Poland’s 18th century aristocrat Stanislaw Kostka-Potocki. In 1823, the painting was listed among art works belonging to another Polish aristocrat, Henryk Lubomirski, in the town of Przeworsk. It was looted during the war and was sold at a New York auction in the late 1990s.



POLISH INSTITUTE IN TOKYO/ PRZEMYSLAW SLIWINSKI VIA AP

This handout picture provided by the Polish Institute in Tokyo on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 shows the precious 16th century baroque painting ‘Madonna with Child’ attributed to Alessandro Turchi, which was looted from a private Polish collection by Nazi Germany during World War II, and has been found in Japan and returned to Polish ownership.

## At 83, Al Pacino is expecting a baby with 29-year-old Noor Alfallah



Pacino

NEW YORK (AP)—Al Pacino, 83, and 29-year-old Noor Alfallah are expecting a baby, the actor’s representative confirmed Wednesday.

Pacino’s publicist, Stan Rosenfield, verified the news first published by TMZ, but said there would

be no statement at this time. The baby would be Pacino’s fourth child. He has a 33-year-old daughter, Julie Marie, with acting coach Jan Tarrant and 22-year-old twins Anton and Olivia with actor Beverly D’Angelo.

Pacino and Alfallah reportedly began dating last year. She describes herself as a “raconteur” on her Instagram page and her IMDB page notes that she’s a producer

on two movies currently in post-production, including the Pacino-starrer “Billy Knight.”

Pacino’s baby news follows close on the heels of longtime friend and fellow actor Robert De Niro’s own. A representative for the 79-year-old actor confirmed earlier this month that De Niro had become a father for the seventh time, but few other details—including the identity of the mother—were released.

## Boy’s sensitive nature worries his grandmother

**DEAR ABBY:** My grandson is 6 and very sensitive, maybe too sensitive. He’s also lovable, super scientific-minded, good-hearted and generous with his little sister. However, he still uses a diaper at night and has CVS (cyclical vomiting syndrome). It’s heartbreaking. For that reason, he’s on a special gluten-free, no flour, no chocolate diet.

The other day at school (he is in kindergarten), they had a presentation with a magician about the danger of drugs and alcohol. Just to let you know, his parents are very much into teaching their kids morals and values, and they only let him watch cartoons like “Paw Patrol” and similar programs. No movies and no TV in general. (Abby, isn’t this too early to introduce the subject of drugs and alcohol to children in school?) My grandson asked, “What are drugs and what is alcohol?” Long story short, he was super scared and started to cry in class.

The school called his parents and he came home devastated. We reassured him that in our homes there are no drugs, and alcohol is in a special cabinet only for adults who use it in moderation and only occasionally because it can hurt your body and mind.

Finally, he fell asleep still crying and took a short nap. He woke up still worried about the presentation, but Mom and Dad explained there was nothing to worry about, that he was living

in a safe house and nobody would hurt him or Mom or Dad and no one in his family would be hurt by drugs or alcohol.

What is your opinion on this matter of super sensitivity? I love him so much.

CONCERNED GRANDMA

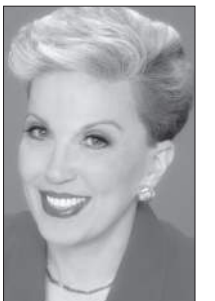
**DEAR CONCERNED:** There are many super-sensitive adults who began life as super-sensitive children. It’s not necessarily a bad thing, but children must learn to exist in and to navigate the increasingly complicated world in which they live. Your grandson’s parents should have his pediatrician recommend a licensed child psychologist who can help the boy and his parents address the challenges ahead.

**DEAR ABBY:** My 34-year-old daughter is the youngest of three. She has never married and has no kids. Her friends, her older sister and both female cousins are all married. She has been seeing a guy for about three years, but it’s a long-distance relationship. She lives in Washington state; he’s in California.

During this time, they split up once after he told her he didn’t think she was The One. After six months apart, they started seeing each other again. It has been a year now. When he asks, she flies down to see him. My question is, how long should she stay in this relationship before getting engaged?

## DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

CLOCK-WATCHING DAD

**DEAR DAD:** How long your 34-year-old daughter should stay in a relationship that appears to be headed nowhere is not for you or for me to decide. She’s an adult who appears to have settled for a friends-with-benefits arrangement, or a “situationship.” If and when she finally concludes that it isn’t going to become anything more, she will move on.

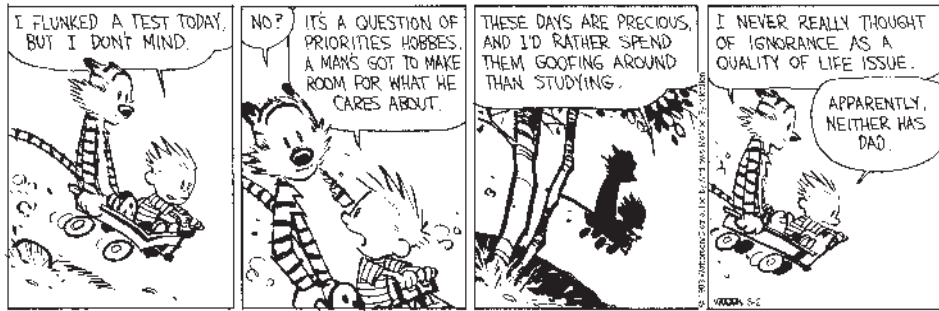
To receive a collection of Abby’s most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



## Garfield®

By Jim Davis



## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**

1 Glue's kin  
6 Belief  
9 AWOL  
12 Easy basket  
13 Avril follower  
14 Goal  
15 Actress De La Garza  
16 Bit of glitter  
18 Salsa scoopers  
20 Lawyer Clooney  
21 Abysmal  
23 Business card no.  
24 Preliminary version  
25 Rhyming tributes  
27 Govern-ing gp.  
29 Freight train unit  
31 Prolific inventor  
35 Some IRAs  
37 PC programs  
38 Caravan beast

**DOWN**

41 "Guinness Book" suffix  
43 — loss  
44 "Got it"  
45 Buckeye  
47 Language of Madrid  
49 Court proceeding  
52 Go astray  
53 Yucatan "Bravo!"  
54 Strainer  
55 "Of course"  
56 Drama with masks  
57 Some door locks  
1 School org.

**2** Have a bug  
**3** Stretchy fabric  
**4** Come-dian Fey  
**5** Put into law  
**6** "Count me in!"  
**7** Easy targets  
**8** Ms.  
**9** Igneous rock  
**10** Kebab go-with  
**11** Refine metal  
**17** Aslan's land  
**19** Soul mate?  
**21** Short do

**22** Ruckus  
**24** Carried out  
**26** Bug barrier  
**28** Soccer star from Argentina  
**30** Gmail alternative  
**32** Droopy-eared pooch  
**33** Choose  
**34** Code-breaking gp.  
**36** Sneaky laugh  
**38** Gospel singer Houston  
**39** Easy — (simple)  
**40** Stands for  
**42** Hotsy-  
**45** Norway's capital  
**46** Operatic solo  
**48** Charged bit  
**50** Broad st.  
**51** Guitar great Paul

**Solution time: 25 mins.**

**Yesterday's answer 6-2**

SLIT GAM SNIP  
PICO OSU HIDE  
ALUM OAF ECON  
MISADD FREEST  
TAS SSW  
LOGO HAWI HORN  
ERH ODE HOO  
GOFSAWOI SKIT  
ATE IOT  
ACTORS DRYRUN  
MOJO ONO LOBE  
IDOL BEN UTES  
DEBS AWE SIRS

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Justin Long, 45; Zachary Quinto, 46; Dana Carvey, 68; Dennis Haysbert, 69.

**Happy Birthday:** Think, establish your position and show kindness in everything you do this year. Aim to please, but don't let anyone take advantage of you. Stick to your principles, and put your energy where it makes the most sense and a difference. Be humble about what you have to offer. Do what you can and go about your business; recognition will follow you. Your numbers are 6, 17, 21, 25, 32, 37, 46.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Pay attention, follow the money and budget for something that will make a difference in how you live. Listen to your inner voice regarding love, health and personal growth. Don't act fast; let your intellect lead the way. \*\*\*

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Clear your head and speak your mind. You can resolve issues and take care of unfinished business if you use your smarts and pay attention to what's going on around you. The sky's the limit; apply your skills and knowledge. Romance is favored. \*\*\*

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Preparation will lead to success. How you approach projects and handle people will determine how much you accomplish. Don't waste your time trying to persuade or convince others. Believe in yourself, carry on and see who joins you in your pursuits. \*\*\*

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Make changes based on how you feel. Reach out to people who lift you. Implement activities and events that offer knowledge and experiences and enrich your life and attitude. A romantic

encounter will encourage you to alter your living arrangements. \*\*\*\*\*

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** A steady pace will help you avoid interference. Interacting with others will slow you down and confuse you. A lifestyle change will warm your heart and encourage you to consider how you can use your skills to further your position and long-term goals. \*\*

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Listen, observe and be resourceful. What you discover will help you turn your attributes into a lucrative opportunity. Take a different approach to helping others, and make a point to show someone you enjoy spending time with how much you care. Travel is favored. \*\*\*\*\*

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Visit friends or relatives, and you'll gather ideas that will encourage you to turn your surroundings into a space that inspires you to utilize your strengths while improving your weaknesses. Don't tolerate anyone who uses emotional manipulation to control you. \*\*\*

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Pay attention to meaningful relationships, how you look and what you share with others. Limit your spending; generosity will leave you in debt and feeling lost. Use your ingenuity to develop cost-effective ways to improve yourself and gain respect. \*\*\*

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Don't share personal information or give anyone the OK to speak on your behalf. A partnership will cause concern if it lacks equality. Monitor situations that can interfere with your happiness or cash flow. Travel and personal growth are in your best interest. \*\*\*

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Donate what you no longer use. Take care of a domestic problem before it has a chance to spin out of control. Too much of anything will leave you at a loss. Stick close to home and make romance a priority. \*\*\*\*\*

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Problems with institutions, relatives and friends will surface if you let your emotions take over and anger set in. Protect your reputation and keep your thoughts to yourself. A change someone makes will turn out to be in your best interest. \*\*

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Make a mental note of your expenses. Cutting back on spending will ease stress and give you hope. Spend on quality, not quantity or bargains you don't need. Set a new budget, make conservative investments and watch your money grow. \*\*\*\*\*

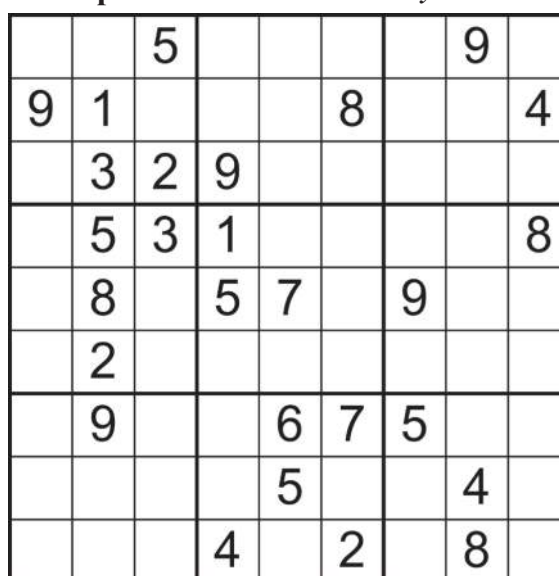
**Birthday Baby:** You are lively, creative and helpful. You are curious and charming.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

## SUDOKU

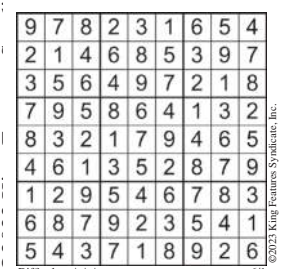
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer



Difficulty: \*\*\*

## STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

Difficulty: \*\*\*\*

6/2

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

**SCORING A GOAL**

**Solution: 4 letters**



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Advantage, Agility, Assist, Ball, Champion, Chip, Corner, Crowd, Defend, Distance, Drills, Drive, Empty Net, Foul, Game, Goalie, Hockey, Indoor, Lacrosse, Match, Number, Penalty, Perform, Player, Point, Power Play, Premier League, Referee, Rugby, Rules, Score, Season, Short Handed, Skill, Space, Speed, Sports, Stadium, Throw-Ins, Touchdown

Yesterday's Answer: Fridge

To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6460. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)



# Ohtani hits his longest homer, 459 feet, Angels beat White Sox, 12-5



**CHICAGO (AP)—**  
Shohei Ohtani

homered in consecutive innings, including a 459-foot drive that was the longest of his Major League Baseball career, and drove in four runs to lead the Los Angeles Angels over the Chicago White Sox 12-5 on Wednesday.

Mike Trout put the Angels ahead 2-0 with a 476-foot home run in the first that was four rows shy of clearing the left field bleachers. Taylor Ward hit also went deep as the Angels hit four two-run homers plus a solo shot.

Lance Lynn (4-6) allowed eight runs, eight hits and two walks while hitting two batters in four innings, raising his ERA to 6.55.



Los Angeles Angels' Shohei Ohtani watches his second, two-run home run of the game off Chicago White Sox starting pitcher Lance Lynn during the fourth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, May 31, 2023, in Chicago.

## RAYS 4, CUBS 3

**CHICAGO (AP)—**Brandon Lowe and Jose Siri each hit two-run homers late in the game off Mark Leiter Jr. (1-1), Jalen Beeks got the final two outs after coming in with the bases loaded and Tampa Bay avoided its first sweep of the season.

Seiya Suzuki chased Rays starter Zach Eflin with a lead-off double in the seventh and came around on a line-drive single to deep left by pinch hitter Trey Mancini against Colin Poche (4-1), putting Chicago on top 3-2. Mancini got thrown out trying to reach second base on the play, and the lead disappeared in a flash.

Eflin gave up three runs and four hits. He struck out five and walked one.

Cubs starter Justin Steele retired all nine batters before exiting with tightness in his left forearm. Hayden Wesneski pitched one-hit ball over 3 2/3 innings and exited to cheers after walking Manuel Margot with two outs in the seventh.

## TIGERS 3, RANGERS 2

**DETROIT (AP)—**Jake Rogers hit a tiebreaking sacrifice fly in the sixth inning and Jake Marisnick followed with a run-scoring single in his Tigers debut, leading Detroit over Texas.

Marcus Semien extended his hitting streak to 20 games with a double in the third.

Will Vest (2-0) retired five straight batters. Alex Lange worked around Semien's one-out walk in a hitless ninth for his 10th save in 11 chances.

Rangers starter Dane Dunning (4-1) allowed three runs and seven hits in five-plus innings.

## GUARDIANS 12, ORIOLES 8

**BALTIMORE (AP)—**Josh Naylor homered, had a career-

high four hits and drove in six runs to highlight a rare power display by Cleveland.

Josh Bell and Gabriel Arias also went deep for the Guardians, who had gone 264 consecutive plate appearances without a long ball before Naylor went deep in the fourth inning. Cleveland notched season highs in runs and hits (17) while scoring in double figures for the first time in a nine-inning game.

Anthony Santander homered for Baltimore and Aaron Hicks had two hits and scored twice in his Orioles debut before leaving with muscle cramps. But Baltimore blew leads of 4-1 and 7-6 while dropping a second straight series for the first time in 2023.

Santander's two-run drive in the bottom half put the Orioles up 7-6 before the Guardians took control with a five-run fifth. After Cleveland loaded the bases against Mychal Givens (0-1), Naylor doubled in three runs and Arias homered to make it 11-7.

Xzavion Curry (2-0), the second of seven Guardians pitchers, pitched the fifth inning and got the win.

## MARINERS 1, YANKEES 0, 10 INNINGS

**SEATTLE (AP)—**Cal Raleigh's single leading off the bottom of the 10th inning scored pinch-runner Jose Caballero to help Seattle avoid a three-game sweep and snap New York's four-game win streak.

Raleigh lined a 2-2 pitch from Ron Marinaccio (2-2) into right field and Caballero scored easily after starting the inning as the runner at second base.

Justin Topa (1-2) pitched around J.P. Crawford's error on DJ LeMahieu's ground-

er leading off the 10th inning as the Yankees failed to score with the bases loaded and one out.

George Kirby didn't factor in the decision but pitched one of the best games in his young career throwing eight shutout innings allowing only three hits.

New York starter Clarke Schmidt was nearly the equal of Kirby and thanks to the Yankees bullpen continued to match zeros on the scoreboard. Schmidt threw 5 2/3 innings giving up three hits and striking out seven before turning to the bullpen.

## TWINS 8, ASTROS 2

**HOUSTON (AP)—**Rookie Louie Varland threw seven scoreless innings and Donovan Solano drove in a season-high four runs as Minnesota defeated Houston.

It was a career-long outing for the 25-year-old Varland (3-1), who allowed four hits — all singles — and struck out five with a walk.

Houston rookie starter Hunter Brown (5-2) yielded six hits and a career-high five runs with eight strikeouts in 4 2/3 innings for his first loss since May 2.

## DIAMONDBACKS 6, ROCKIES 0

**PHOENIX (AP)—**Christian Walker hit his 100th career home run, Tommy Henry threw seven strong innings and Arizona won its fourth straight game.

Arizona improved to 33-23, the first time it has been 10 games over .500 since 2018.

Walker hit his milestone homer on a changeup from Peter Lambert in the fifth. It was Walker's 12th homer of the season and made it 6-0.

Corbin Carroll had RBI singles in both the first and second innings. Lourdes Gurriel Jr. added a two-run single in the first, and Pavin Smith added an RBI double in the second.

## BRAVES 4, ATHLETICS 2

**OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—**Ozzie Albies hit a go-ahead, two-run homer in a three-run fifth inning, and Atlanta denied Oakland's bid for their first three-game winning streak this season.

Jared Shuster (2-2) allowed two runs, three hits and four walks in 5 1/3 innings to win consecutive decisions for the first time this season. Jesse Chavez, A.J. Minter, Nick Anderson and Raisel Iglesias combined to retire Oakland's last 11 batters, with Iglesias getting three outs for his fifth save in six chances.

James Kaprielian (0-6) has the most consecutive losing decisions for an Oakland pitcher at a season's start since Mike Mohler began 0-8 in 1997. Kaprielian gave up three runs and five hits in 4 2/3 innings.

## BREWERS 4, BLUE JAYS 2

**TORONTO (AP)—**Abraham Toro hit a two-run home run, Owen Miller had two hits and drove in a pair of runs in Milwaukee's win over Toronto.

Called up from Triple-A on Tuesday, Toro connected off Toronto's Alex Manoah in the second for his first hit with the Brewers, who are 24-10 this season when hitting at least one home run.

Making his second start of the season, Brewers right-hander Julio Teheran (1-1) allowed an unearned run and four hits in six innings. He

didn't have a walk or strikeout. Devin Williams earned his ninth save in nine chances.

Manoah (1-6) allowed two runs and three hits in four innings in losing his sixth straight decision. Toronto cut the lead in half on Kevin Kiermaier had an RBI triple for Toronto.

## REDS 5, RED SOX 4

**BOSTON (AP)—**Spencer Steer hit a two-run homer to break a seventh-inning tie and Cincinnati took advantage of Rafael Devers' throwing error to come from behind and beat Boston.

Kevin Newman, Matt McLain and Nick Senzel had two hits apiece for the Reds, who have won five in a row, taking the first two of their three games in Boston to beat the Red Sox in a series for the first time since the 1975 World Series.

Ian Gibaut (5-1) pitched one inning of perfect relief for Cincinnati, which trailed 2-0 and 3-1 before scoring one in the sixth and three unearned runs off Josh Winckowski (2-1) in the seventh to take a 5-3 lead. Buck Farmer pitched the ninth, retiring Devers on a deep fly to center to end it and earn his first save.

Masataka Yoshida curled a home run around the Pesky Pole and Emmanuel Valdez landed one on the shelf atop the Green Monster for Boston. Devers and Jarren Duran had RBI doubles.

## METS 4, PHILLIES 1

**NEW YORK (AP)—**Mark Canha homered and drove in four runs to lead Carlos Carrasco and New York past the slumping Philadelphia.

Carrasco (2-2) pitched six efficient innings to win his second consecutive start. Canha hit a two-run homer in the third and a two-run single with two outs in the fourth off Aaron Nola (4-4).

Edmundo Sosa homered off Carrasco for the Phillies, who lost their third straight and matched a season low at five games under .500. The defending National League champions went 5-14 against the Mets last season and have dropped the first two meetings between the division rivals this year, mustering only one run over two nights.

Brooks Raley struck out three in 1 1/3 innings for the Mets, retiring a scuffling Trea Turner with two runners on to end the seventh. Adam Ottavino got two outs and David Robertson earned his 10th save in 11 chances.

## MARLINS 2, PADRES 1

**MIAMI (AP)—**Jean Segura and Nick Fortes singled in

runs against Josh Hader in the ninth inning, and Miami overcame Gary Sánchez's first home run for San Diego.

Hader (0-1) blew a save for the third time in 16 chances, opening the ninth with a five-pitch walk to Yuli Gurriel. Joey Wendle sacrificed and Segura singled to left field for his 500th career RBI.

Segura took second on the throw and stole third. With the infield in, Fortes singled down the right-field line, giving the Marlins their third walk-off win this season.

Steven Okert (2-0) struck out the side in a perfect ninth, finishing a two-hitter.

## PIRATES 9, GIANTS 4

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—**Bryan Reynolds drove in three runs and made a leaping catch against the wall, helping Pittsburgh climb back above .500.

Former Giants Andrew McCutchen and Connor Joe each went 3 for 4 with an RBI as the Pirates (28-27) won consecutive games after dropping below .500 for the first time since they were 1-2.

Mitch Keller (7-1) improved to 4-0 in his last five starts, allowing four runs and 10 hits in six innings with eight strikeouts. It was his seventh consecutive outing with at least eight strikeouts.

Alex Wood (1-1) allowed a season-high six runs, eight hits and three walks in 4 1/3 innings as the Giants fell back to .500 at 28-28.

## NATIONALS 10, DODGERS 6

**LOS ANGELES (AP)—**Luis García hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the eighth inning, Keibert Ruiz added two more of Washington's five homers, and the Nationals avoided a series sweep.

García connected for a two-out, two-strike shot down the right field line off Brusdar Graterol (2-2) to put Washington up 8-5.

Ruiz, the former Dodgers prospect traded in a package for Max Scherzer and Trea Turner in 2021, homered in the second and ninth innings, giving him three in the last two games. Hunter Harvey pitched two innings for his third save. Patrick Corbin yielded seven hits and four walks over five bumpy innings for the Nationals.

Mookie Betts hit his 40th leadoff homer and added another solo shot in the eighth for the Dodgers, who lost at home for only the second time in 15 games since late April. Noah Syndergaard struggled yet again for LA, blowing two leads while allowing five runs, seven hits and two walks over five innings with just two strikeouts.



# Butler, Jokic lead Heat, Nuggets into NBA Finals after unconventional paths

**DENVER** (AP)—Nikola Jokic wasn't supposed to be here. Neither was Jimmy Butler, for that matter.

Jokic was drafted behind 40 other players in 2014. Butler was drafted behind 29 others in 2011. Jokic grew up in Serbia, not even thinking about the NBA. Butler didn't have the easiest upbringing in Texas, then went the junior college route at the start of his journey toward the pros.

Yet here they are in the NBA Finals.

One of them will become a champion for the first time, with Jokic leading the Denver Nuggets and Butler leading the Miami Heat in a matchup that starts Thursday night in Denver, with the Nuggets heavily favored to win it all.

"This is going to be the hardest game of our life, and we know that," Jokic said. "We are prepared for that. We are prepared for that. So, I think there is no favorite. Definitely, I think we are not favorites in this series. I think they're not either. I think it's just the finals."

The Nuggets—in the finals for the first time—had by far the easier road to the title round. They climbed atop the Western Conference standings in mid-December and never fell from that perch, then lived up to that No. 1 seed by going 12-3 in the West playoffs.

Miami—a seven-time finalist now, seeking a fourth title—had about the rockiest path to the Rocky Mountains that a team could have. The Heat had to rally in a play-in elimination game just to make the playoffs, knocked out No. 1 overall seed Milwaukee in Round 1, rival New York in Round 2 and then just had to go win a Game 7 in Boston, after



Miami Heat forward Jimmy Butler dribbles during the second half in Game 7 of the NBA basketball Eastern Conference finals against the Boston Celtics Monday, May 29, 2023, in Boston. AP

nearly wasting a 3-0 lead, to vanquish last season's loss to the Celtics in the East finals.

"This is a special group," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "This group has been able to overcome a lot of different things, handle a lot of adversity, setbacks, things that have not gone the way we wanted them to go. And instead of having that collapse our spirit, it allowed us to develop some fortitude and grit collectively, and give us something to rally around, which was each other."

At 44-38 this season, Miami would tie the worst reg-

ular-season record ever by an NBA champion. The Washington Bullets had that record and won the 1978 title. There were 10 teams that finished this season with better records than Miami — nine of them are no longer playing — and 589 teams in NBA history that

had better regular seasons than the 2022-23 Heat yet still didn't win a title.

They are improbable finalists. Their leader took an improbable path, too. But after stints with Chicago, Phila-

delphia and Minnesota didn't always go as planned, Butler is now in the finals with Miami for a second time in four years.

"I would like to say that I'm never rattled. I'm very calm," Butler said. "I'm very consistent in everything that I do, whether it's before the game, after the game, during the game, and I think when my guys look at me like that, they follow suit in every single way. I love that about them because they're never

shook. No matter what."

It's not about Jokic vs. Butler; both have big-time players around them as well, namely Jamal Murray for Denver and Bam Adebayo for Miami. Jokic and Butler are the two leading scorers left in these playoffs; Jokic is averaging 29.9 points, 13.3 rebounds and 10.3 assists, while Butler is averaging 28.5 per game — including a playoff-high 56 to help oust the Bucks.

Jokic is a two-time MVP, was in the conversation for a third in a row this year, has seen about every defense

imaginable and rarely blinks at any of them. Play off him, he'll shoot and score. Play tight, he'll set up someone for an easier shot. He's as close to fundamental perfection as there might be in the league right now. Not bad for a guy who got drafted while the broadcast was airing a Taco Bell commercial—true story—and never thought he'd make the NBA when he arrived in the U.S.

"With Nikola, it's never about looking backward. It's always about looking forward and challenging himself to become the best player that he can be," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "Early on, being the best player he could be was not necessarily about a skill set. It was about maturing, growing up, handling adversity, dealing with the referees, getting into the best shape of his life, losing weight. I think once that all happened, that kind of coincided with our rise."

The team that plays at the highest altitude in the NBA — 5,280 feet above sea level — has risen to its highest level yet. Jokic is four wins from his first ring. Butler is four wins from the ring he has been talking about getting all year, even when Miami's record didn't exactly suggest the Heat would be here.

But here they are. The West finals MVP in Jokic. The East finals MVP in Butler. The prize they want most is just four wins away.

"In a lot of ways, what they have done is unprecedented," Miami forward Kevin Love said. "Obviously, they operate in different ways to get the job done. But still, all things considered, I think they're two very underappreciated stars and superstars in this league."

**DENVER** (AP)—Congratulations, Serbia. You're about to have another NBA champion. His name is Nikola.

(The last name is TBA.)

Denver has two-time MVP Nikola Jokic. Miami has rookie Nikola Jovic. They met earlier this season for the first time to have dinner and get to know each other a little bit—Jokic knew about Jovic before they met—and now they're on opposite sides of the NBA Finals.

"He was playing in the same team that I played back in Serbia," Jokic said. "One of his coaches was my godfather who worked there. He told me, I think a year before, he's going to get drafted and that he's actually a really good player, really good person, that he's really working hard, can have a talent to be NBA player."

## There's going to be a new NBA champion from Serbia: Nikola (something)

Jovic, who turns 20 on June 9, has largely spent the year in the Heat player development program, adding strength and learning the NBA game. He says Jokic represents what young Serbian players are trying to become.

"He's a great person, a great player and we're proud of him," Jovic said.

Other NBA champions who hail from Serbia include Darko Milicic, Peja Stojakovic, Ognjen Kuzmic and Nemanja Bjelica.

NBA Finals games won't start until 2:30 a.m. in Serbia, but that nation is one of the 200 or so where the series will be broadcast. The finals will be shown by Serbian network Arena Sport 1, which has 1.1 million subscribers—a num-

ber that represents roughly 15% of Serbia's population.

### MCDANIEL'S ALLEGIANCE

Heat coach Erik Spoelstra is changing the affinity of lifelong Denver Nuggets fans.

Well, one, anyway. Miami Dolphins coach Mike McDaniel—born and raised in Denver—knows the city and the Nuggets have waited 47 years for an NBA title. He's been a fan for as long as he can remember, even convincing his mother to spend her entire bonus on a specific ticket plan in 1994 just so he could watch Michael Jordan go to Denver. (Problem was, Jordan retired that season, so McDaniel was a bit disappointed.)

"I don't lose any sleep by saying, 'You know what? Denver Nuggets, why don't we wait 48 years, not 47,'" McDaniel said Thursday. "I think it's really cool. It is odd that the two teams you probably follow as close as anything, you're rooting for one and somebody has to lose."

McDaniel has been a court-side regular at Heat games in this postseason and has struck up a friendship with Spoelstra—even having some long post-game chats with the Heat coach.

"I feel so humbled to be able to have the relationship," McDaniel said.

### FANDUEL SAYS

According to FanDuel Sportsbook, the Nuggets are huge favorites to win the NBA title.

A \$100 wager on the Nuggets to win the series — made Wednesday — would net a bettor about \$21 in profit. In horse racing, that would be roughly the equivalent of 1-5 odds.

A \$100 wager on the Heat would return \$350.

### GUEST REPORTERS

Denver's Jamal Murray was harassed in his NBA Finals media day news conference by a reporter.

Thing is, the instigator wasn't really a reporter. It wasn't really harassment, either.

Indiana's Benedict Mathurin is one of four players who will serve as NBA Finals media correspondents during the Denver-Miami series. Orlando's Paolo Banchero, Utah's Walker Kessler and Oklahoma City's Jalen Williams are the others.

Mathurin—wearing a vintage Pacers Jermaine O'Neal jersey—asked Murray, his fellow Canadian, about a 1-on-1 game they played a few years back at a Basketball Without Borders camp in Colombia. Let's just say they remember certain details about that game differently.

"I was coaching him up. He was really athletic, as he is now, jumping over everybody," Murray said. "Couldn't shoot as well as he could now. Developed his game a little bit. Matured so much. So proud of him as a fellow Canadian."

As Mathurin pressed Murray for details about this 1-on-1 game, Murray eventually—though playfully—made clear he had enough.

"Next question," he said.



By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

Team Sufa is the men's division pennant champion of the 2023 Budweiser Belau Amateur Softball Association League even as they fell to Peleliu, 24-26, last Sunday at the DanDan Softball Field.

Peleliu staged a well-timed rally in the bottom of the last inning as they hit in eight runs to steal the W from Sufa.

Heading into the last inning, Sufa had a 22-18 lead. They thought it was enough as they put up just two runs in their last at-bat. They should've brought in more runs as their pitching fell apart in the last inning and allowed Peleliu to capitalize and win by an 8-run rally.

## Team Sufa pennant champs of BASA league

Sufa's Audie Maratita did put up two back-to-back home runs for a seven-RBI game, while teammate Ray Borja hit one out of the park himself.

For Peleliu, the game-changer was Alvin Salas who hit two homeruns—with a big one in the last inning that brought in three runs. Cartfield Sablan had one of his own in the sixth inning for two RBIs.

### Aimeliik 1 Time 24, Momma Charo 14

Aimeliik 1 Time finally won a game but it was too little, too late as they were kicked out of contention heading into the playoffs.

They did go out with a bang as they defeated Momma Charo, 24-14.

Aimeliik rose from the bottom and rallied in the last inning as they put up 10 runs from two grand slams. Chris George then Chueyton Martin hit one grand slam each which was enough to put Momma Charo at bay.

Momma Charo claimed the seventh seed heading into the playoffs.

### Asahi 16, Wazzup 8

Asahi said goodbye to Wazzup for the last time as they defeated them, 16-8.

Asahi is the No. 3 seed in the playoffs while Wazzup is out for the count.

It was a home run derby last Sunday as Asahi made three homeruns in as many innings.

The first home run was made by Marino Hiroichi in the sec-

ond inning, the second was made by S.R Matsutaro in the next inning, and the last home run was made by Ish Masao in the last inning.

Wazzup was blanked through most of the game as they scored eight runs over only four innings.

### Man Amigos 8, Hagu La'mun 7

Man Amigos is the fifth seed and managed to slip past sixth seed Hagu La'Mun, 8-7.

They were both at an even 7-7 heading into the last inning and as Hagu La'mun failed to drive in any runs in their last at-bat, gave the last chance for Man Amigos to walk it off.

And that they did as Man Amigos' Joey Dela Cruz came



LEIGH GASES

Sufa's Sonnie Sablan is seen in this file photo during one of their games in the 2023 Belau Amateur Softball Association League at the DanDan Softball Field. Just as last season, Sufa has claimed the pennant in the men's division.

in for the winning run.

### Tokahao 11, Redmen 6

Defending champions Tokahao is the fourth seed and beat No. 8 Redmen, 11-6.

Tokahao put up the majority of their runs in the third inning with six and at this point had a

four-run lead over the Redmen.

Then, Tokahao added four more runs in the next few innings off two RBI singles each by Manny Villagomez and Dave Attao. The Redmen was to put up just three more runs and were handed the loss as they could not catch up to Tokahao.

## 2023 TTT Student Mini-Derby canceled



Tasi To Table, Inc. regretfully

informs the community, its student members, and volunteers that the 2023 TTT Student Mini-Derby has been canceled due to strong winds and rough water expected for tomorrow, June 3.

"We're very sorry to cancel this long-awaited event for TTT's student members, but the safety of our students and volunteer fishermen will always come first," said TTT president Gene Weaver.

"The current forecast for this Saturday of 17-knot winds with gusts to 21 knots would mean sending students out on rough waters. That's a risk we'll never take."

In place of the Mini-Derby, TTT on June 3 will be holding a private beach day filled with land-based games and activities, including a distribution of rods

and reels for the students for successfully completing TTT's student program.

The TTT Student Mini-Derby is an event held at the end of every school year for TTT's second-year students. The students are taken out to the water by volunteering boat captains to experience the fishing method of trolling. TTT expresses its deepest appreciation to the boat captains who support the youth and give their time to the students.

Last year, *Carmelita II* won the Tasi to Table Student Mini-Derby after catching a 28.4-lb wahoo in the waters off Saipan.

A total of 11 boats and 27 Saipan students participated in the derby, with captain Chief Justice Alexandro Castro of the *Carmelita II* leading the pack with the heaviest catch of the derby. (PR)

## PUERTO

From Page 24

Susan's Catering, however, rallied in the second quarter and tied things up at 25-all following a hard drive by Craig Padayao.

That's when the game turned as Puerto Rico Bento players suddenly got hot and dropped a 19-2 run to end the first half to open a 17-point lead, 44-27, at the halftime break.

From there, it was just a matter of managing the game and no other player was perfect in doing that than point forward Coby Santos.

With Santos pulling all the strings, Susan's Catering had no chance of mounting a comeback and even trailed 70-48 after three quarters of play.

The last 10 minutes of the ballgame became a showcase for the national pool member

as Santos capped his 38-point performance by firing 10 more points in fourth as Puerto Rico Bento wound up juxtaposing Susan's Catering.

Alvin Fundador backed up Santos with 15 hussle points, while big men Dryll Foronda and Ney Ibe added 10 points apiece.

Joseph Torres, despite a horrendous clip from 3-point territory, still led Susan's Catering with 18 points, while Ronald Bernardo and Leo Galarese fired 16 and 15 markers, respectively.

Last Tuesday, Ol'Aces advanced to the Final Four of the masters division following an 88-72 triumph over also-ran Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant.

Freddie Pelisaman again led the team from Oleai with 30 points, while Sen. Dennis Mendiola powered his way to 17 points. Gab Camacho was the highpoint man for Pepoy's with

18 points with Bryan Natividad adding 14 more.

The game was first played last May 20 before it was canceled due to rain and the league took a break due to Typhoon Mawar.

Another game that was reset due to Mawar finally was played and completed Tuesday with Blue Haus running roughshod over Double A Corp., 102-82.

Alex Lauron shone all game long to lead Blue Haus to the quarters with 22 points, while Double A was paced by the 20 markers of 3-point specialist Rodney Catalla.

### WEDNESDAY

**Puerto Rico Bento 96**—Santos 38, Fundador 15, Antonio 13, Foronda 10, Ibe 10, Hipolito 4, Galang 4, Estimado 3.

**Susan's Catering 69**—Torres 18, Bernardo 16, Galarese 15, Duenas 10, Padayao 4, Agustin 4, Capalad 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 20-15,

44-27, 70-48, 96-69.

### TUESDAY First Game

**Ol'Aces 88**—F. Pelisamen 30, Mendiola 17, Libuw 11, B. Pelisamen 10, George 8, Rangamar 3, Tudela 3, B. Joab 2, D. Joab 2, Romeo 2.

**Pepoy's Cafe & Restaurant 72**—Camacho 18, Natividad 14, Villacrusis 10, Tabora 9, Martin 8, Albert 5, Galulu 4, Mina 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 31-23, 50-32, 66-53, 88-72.

### Second Game

**Blue Haus 102**—Lauron 22, Diaz 16, Peredo 14, Barrios 13, Berline 12, Garcia 7, Culala 6, De Dios 6, Talanía 4, Esdreton 2.

**Double A Corp. 82**—Catalla 20, Rivera 14, Palero 14, Tenorio 14, Tolentino 11, Cabaluna 4, Lontoc 4, Basa 1.

**Scoring by quarters:** 31-13, 48-26, 71-44, 102-82.

## SKY'S

From Page 24

invited not one—but two pickleball pro athletes to level up the CNMI's game.

The recent pickleball pro to grace Saipan's pickleball players with his presence and wisdom was Scott Moore who left last Tuesday. Last March, his son, Daniel, made his way here from Japan. As he lives nearby, Dr. Krum said to expect him to visit maybe on a yearly basis.

Dr. Krum said after Scott held a two-day clinic and exhibition, "It has been a really special year that we had two pros join us for clinics and lessons. Daniel Moore is living in Japan and I think we can expect a yearly visit from him. Scott lives in Colorado Springs and it will be harder for him to come to Saipan, but he did tell me that he will plan to return as many times as he can. He had a great time on Saipan!"

"A huge thank you goes out to the pickleball board that made the event possible,

but especially to Nicky Nichols who was Scott's ambassador and tour guide for the four days Scott was here. Also, Marivic Dunlop, who is our hostess with the mostest, for all of her help with the event," he said.

As they approach their third anniversary in June, Dr. Krum said that he is really proud of how the club has grown and how their level of play has improved.

For what's next, he said the PFNMI board is working to find land to build dedicated pickleball courts for the people of Saipan to enjoy. "We are also involved in outreach programs to bring pickleball to the youth on our island. We are also working on outreach to Africa, Vietnam, and South Korea."

He added, "One of Scott Moore's predictions for the future of pickleball is that the best players in the future will come from Asia. That's us!"

Donna Krum, for her part, said that Paradise Dental Spa brought pickleball to Saipan in June 2020 and that they have

continued to financially support the growth of the club. "This is all part of Paradise Dental Spa's commitment to community outreach, and was possible due to the financial rewards of the Pandemic Eligibility Medicaid Program," she said. On Monday after the exhibition matches with Scott, "we honored the real people of Paradise Dental Spa, both team members and some of our loyal patients, who are the ones who really made it happen!"

Donna said she initially thought that pickleball would be really hard to explain the benefits to people and describe why it was the fastest growing sport in the country, but she was mistaken.

"This game markets itself. I have never seen anything like it. It just reminds me of the movie 'Field of Dreams' where they said 'build it and they will come,'" she said.

After Dr. Krum, who was an avid tennis player had hip surgery, wanted to play tennis again and was told by Donna's sister Judy, to bring pickleball to Saipan. "So, in June 2020, we

taped the first pickleball court on Saipan in the parking lot of our dental office, and played on Friday and Saturday mornings when the dental office was closed. There was a regular group of about six of us."

"The rest is history! Today our club has over 175 members and is growing weekly... The mere fact that our small island was able to attract Scott Moore to come here for private lessons and group coaching is a great example of the miracles this game creates! Pickleball tourism is gaining ground, and as we acquire more courts, Saipan can become one of the destinations for this type of tourism," she said.

Since that time, they have played pickleball in Guam, Arizona, Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, Honolulu, and soon in Newport Beach, California, Las Vegas, and Washington.

Their pickleball club, the Pickleball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands, plays nightly at the American Memorial Park courts starting at 5:30pm. All ages 8 to 80 are welcome.

than usual, he said, "To be honest, most of us get excited when we get surf. We don't always get them, especially [heading] into summer. It was unfortunate this super typhoon came and we pray for all those who got affected and we wish them a speedy recovery. However, the truth is, after a storm passes us, we look forward to surfing."

He did heed a warning for those wanting to surf during or after a storm passes: "Of course we don't want to encourage people to go out during the storm or even after the storm to surf because it can get rough and current can get so strong especially that channel behind Aquarius. There are other surf spots around Saipan but those are a bit more dangerous especially after a storm. The more experienced surfers go out to these spots. For less experienced surfers, Aquarius is a safer place to be. It's not always 100% safe as many people have experienced being swept out, but it's definitely safer than the other spots."

"Surfing can be fun but could also be dangerous. So my ad-

vice to anyone wanting to surf is to know the conditions of the water, get information from experienced surfers, and when in doubt, don't go out," said Villacrusis. "The best thing about surfing is forgetting about all the stresses in life—just you and the ocean [at] that moment."

For Salam Younis, a surfer of about 10 years, he said the "surf was good, we'll take what we can get. One hour in the morning about three hours after work... Know your limits."

Ed Manibusan, who has been surfing for 20 years, also said "The surf was not bad. Pre/post storms bring swells but also a lot [of] wind and rain [and] the rip currents are much stronger. I went out in the morning and evening on Friday, and Saturday afternoon. Conditions were not as clean but there was definitely power and occasional size in the surfing areas at Sugar Dock. Especially during storms, it's best to have a surf buddy or someone watching you from the shore." He said for safety out in the water during stormy waters, know your physical abilities and be aware of rip currents. "Like other surfers we use visual markers to understand the directions you are drifting. Safety should always be your No. 1 priority anytime you get in the water," he said.



# Heat or Nuggets? Local hoops fans make their picks



By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The Miami Heat vs. the Denver Nuggets. The Eastern Conference No. 8 seed vs. the West Conference No. 1 seed. Two-time MVP Nikola Jokic vs. Jimmy “Freaking” Butler.

Just like how ESPN is predicting that the Nuggets will have an 88.7% chance of taking home the Larry O’Brien trophy, the majority of roundball fans on Saipan are picking Denver to scale the NBA mountaintop in 2023.

All I can say as a red-blooded Heat fan is, I’ll take that 11.3% chance. It’s actually much better than the 3% chance so-called NBA pundits said of Miami beating the Boston Celtics in the Eastern Conference Finals.

Heck, Erik Spoelstra, Himmy Buckets, and the rest of the Heat have been underdogs since the start of the playoffs but have beaten the No. 1 seed Milwaukee Bucks in the first round via a gentleman’s sweep, the New York Knicks in the second round in six games, and then broke the Celtics’ hearts in seven games in the ECF.

I’m riding with Miami until season’s end and fully expect them to take care of the Nuggets in six or seven games. Attitude vs. altitude!

Here is what how other local NBA fans think the best-of-seven NBA Finals will unravel:

■ ■ ■ ■

You know, this one is a hard one for me because both teams have ex-UK Wildcat players on them. Ultimately, I think Denver will win in six games due to the potent punch of Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray. Now if Herro, also a UK Wildcat alum, can make it back for the Heat, and he wasn’t rusty, they would push it to seven games and then it’s anyone’s series. As far as who I’m rooting for? I am rooting for Miami. Pat Riley, the president of the Heat, is also a UK alum and would love to see him get another championship.  
—**Stephen Dame, Saipan Community Church senior pastor**

Hard to bet against the Heat because they are one of the five teams that I follow ever since. But in this case; Nuggets in six games. MVP? Who else but Jokic if he doesn’t get hurt. I actually watched the Nuggets in Denver 2019 against the Sixers. So I started following them closely after that. Teams I follow closely at least in the last five or more years are—Celtics, Heat, Clippers, Nuggets, and Suns. Recently, the Mavericks, Rockets, and Grizzlies.  
—**Sen. Jude Hofschneider**

I am a Heat fan, but I see the Nuggets taking home the Larry O’Brien trophy in six games. The Nugget’s are playing solidly in the playoffs, totally different from their games when they were eliminated early last year. I pick Nikola Jokic laughing his way to take the Finals MVP paired with the newest NBA dynamic duo with Jamal Murray. The Nuggets will win in six games because of Jokic and Murray and the big support of Michael Porter Jr., Aaron Gordon, Kentavious Caldwell-Pope. They also have a very deep bench. It is only now when they swept the Lakers that they earned the respect of NBA/basketball fanatics. Even in the Western Conference Finals, Jokic was posting triple-doubles every game.

—**Manny Sitchon, Triathlon Association of the CNMI president**

It’s just my gut feeling that Denver will crush Miami in four games. First, they’re rested and fresh. Second, they have the Top 2 players of the three remaining superstar-caliber players. Third, they’re confidence is on a different level after they defeated the Lakers in four games. Then everything is just equal, role players, 3-points shooting, and coaching. That’s my 10 cents.

—**Darwin Gonzales, Win Pacific Corp.**

Nuggets in five games because of team chemistry. Also because of the pick and



Aguo



Ajoste



Dame



Dancoe



De Guzman



De La Torre



Garcia



Gonzales



Hofschneider



Lee



Pamintuan



Pangelinan



Rangamar



Sitchon



Venus



White

roll of Nikola Jokic and Jamaral Murray then they have outside shooters that can stretch the defense. Jokic for sure will be the NBA Finals MVP.

—**Jeff Garcia, Blue Haus**

The Nuggets are very much ripe to finally win their very first NBA championship. I predict they will beat the Heat in five games. Nikola Jokic will win the NBA Finals MVP. I’m really a San Antonio Spurs fan, but in the NBA Finals I will root for the Nuggets.

—**Jorge De Guzman, A’s Auto Air Conditioning**

The Denver Nuggets in five games with Nikola Jokic winning the NBA Finals MVP.

—**Michael White, former NMSA president**

I always favor a good Cinderella story like No. 8 Miami Heat did against No. 2 Boston Celtics. However, I would go with the Denver Nuggets in five games. Nikola Jokic has my tip of the hat for NBA Finals MVP.

—**Curtis Dancoe, Saipan Fishermen Association**

I like both teams. But the Nuggets’ amazing ball rotation will be a nightmare for the Heat. The Nuggets will get the crown, 4-2. Nikola Jokic will easily be the Finals MVP with his triple-double dominance.

—**Ferdie De La Torre, Saipan Tribune**

While stats favor the Nuggets and they are favorites to win, I choose the Miami Heat for their grit and never-say-die attitude. Miami in six. Jimmy Butler will win the NBA Finals MVP.

—**Rufino Aguo, former CNMI men’s national basketball coach**

I’m all about the Lakers but if I really have to choose, I’ll choose The Nuggets to finally win their first NBA championship. NBA Finals

MVP will be Nikola Jokic.

—**James Lee, Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president**

I got Denver in five and Nikola Jokic winning the NBA Finals MVP. I’ve been rooting for Jokic since I drafted him on my fantasy team back in 2015 and he hasn’t failed to deliver since then. Also, I think Denver has the deeper team compared to Miami.

—**Marc Venus, Ernst & Young**

The Denver Nuggets will win the NBA championship. They’re a complete all-around team and they’ve got the best player in the world right now in Nikola Jokic. It will be over in six games and I believe Jokic will get the NBA Finals MVP. I don’t think Miami has someone that can slow him down.

—**Elias Rangamar, NMSA Hall of Fame inductee**

The Miami Heat in six games. Jimmy Butler will win the NBA Finals MVP. I’m a fan of Jimmy Butler. It’s fun to watch him. You can feel his energy through the screen. No one expected them to make it to the NBA Finals. So far they’re proving everyone wrong. I want to see the underdogs take it.

—**Aaron Pamintuan, personal trainer**

Honestly, I wanted the LA Lakers to win. But I’m going with the healthier team and teamwork on and off the basketball court.

I’m going for the Denver Nuggets.

The Nuggets and supposed-to-be regular season MVP Nikola Jokic are amazing and they understand their roles to make the team better, and with a healthier Jamal Murray, they are leading this team to their first-ever franchise championship.

I know they (Nuggets) want to keep it to five games but the No. 8 seed of the

Eastern Conference, Miami Heat, will not go down without a bulldog fight.

Nuggets in six games and Jokic as NBA Finals MVP.

—**Omar Ajoste, 670 Sonics Basketball coach**  
4-3 Denver Nuggets.

Jamal Murray will be the NBA Finals MVP. Denver is No. 1 in their conference. Their offense and defense are also on point and they have great team chemistry.

—**Ed Pangelinan, DFEMS**

## Registration still ongoing for 2023 Chamber golf



The Saipan Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to announce that registrations are still open for our highly anticipated 14th Annual Golf Tournament.

“We understand that unforeseen weather and logistical circumstances may have caused some inconvenience, so we have extended the registration period until June 9, 2023. Don’t miss out on this exciting opportunity to secure your spot!” the Chamber said in a statement.

Originally scheduled for May 27, the golf tournament has been rescheduled to June 17, 2023.

This adjustment allows all participants to properly prepare for a fantastic day of golfing and networking in a vibrant and competitive atmosphere.

Registering for the tournament is quick and easy. Simply visit the Chamber’s website, [www.saipanchamber.com](http://www.saipanchamber.com), to download the registration form. Alternatively, you can visit the

Saipan Chamber of Commerce office located at the Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 201-A, 2nd floor. Their dedicated staff is eagerly waiting to assist you in completing the registration process and addressing any questions you may have. The Chamber kindly requests that all payments and submission of registration forms be made at their office. Additionally, regis-

tration forms can be picked up at the lobby area of LaoLao Bay Golf & Resort. To ensure smooth processing, please make all checks payable to the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.

By participating in our golf tournament and supporting the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, you are directly contributing to the development and growth of our local youth. The Chamber aims to provide financial support to college and trade students as they progress through their educational career paths. Your involvement makes a significant difference!

The 14th Annual Golf Tournament promises to be an incredible event filled with friendly competition, networking opportunities, and exciting prizes. We invite golf enthusiasts of all skill levels to join us and experience a day of camaraderie and enjoyment.

Don’t let this unique opportunity pass you by! Secure your spot by registering today and mark your calendars for June 17, 2023.

For more information, contact the Saipan Chamber of Commerce at 670-234-7150. If you have any questions regarding registration, feel free to email Riley Buenaventura at [r.buenaventura@saipanchamber.org](mailto:r.buenaventura@saipanchamber.org).

“We deeply appreciate your continued support and eagerly look forward to welcoming you to the 14th Annual Golf Tournament,” the Chamber stated. (PR)





Ohtani hits his longest homer, 459 feet, Angels beat White Sox, 12-5.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

Team Sufa are pennant champs of BASA league.

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24 FRIDAY, JUNE 2, 2023

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Puerto Rico Bento advances to Final Four

MARK RABAGO

Puerto Rico Bento's Coby Santos completes an and-1 drive against Susan's Catering's Ronald Bernardo in the open division of the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Wednesday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.



By MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

**P**uerto Rico Bento used a monster run to close the first half to serve Susan's Catering a devastating 96-69 loss in the open division of the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Wednesday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.



With the win, Puerto Rico Bento advanced to the Final Four and joined early quarterfinalists Martech-Ol'Aces and The Game. Wednesday's second game pitting sec-

ond seed New Chang Ming Market against seventh seed JTM Saipan was postponed anew due to rain showers.

Puerto Rico Bento got the better of Susan's Catering in the first 10 minutes of play and led 20-15.

See PUERTO on Page 22

## Surfers storm post-Mawar waves



LEIGH GASES

A surfer seen here takes a break from the waves behind Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel in Chalan Kanoa last Friday. Local surfers took to the beach to catch some decent waves after the passing of Typhoon Mawar last week, as they said after a storm is when waves break bigger and cleaner—which Saipan's beaches don't see often.

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

The surfing community did not let up the chance to catch some waves as the seas swelled during the passing of Typhoon Mawar last week.

The thrill of the chase for some great waves that CNMI waters don't normally see brought out flocks of local surfers to the beach behind Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel

in Chalan Kanoa as Mawar continued to rough up the waters last Friday.

Joe Villacrusis, a surfer of five years, said that the surf when they went out was good. "We have had some decent waves at the back of Aquarius since the day of the typhoon. The waves were cleaner on Friday and Saturday."

When asked why they go out even with rougher waters

See SURFERS on Page 22

## 'Sky's the limit' for pickleball in the CNMI

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER



Pickleball in the CNMI has been all the rage for the past year and within that span, has exploded into almost 200 Pickleball Federation of the Northern Mariana Islands members.

The sky's truly the limit for pickleball as it approaches its third anniversary of inception by Paradise Dental Clinic owned by Dr. Nelson Krum and Donna Krum—and in less than two months

See SKY'S on Page 22



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Paradise Dental Clinic team members and some patients were honored after the exhibition games on Monday evening and pose for a photo with Scott Moore, front, at the American Memorial Park courts.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pickleball of the Northern Mariana Islands Federation members pose for a photo with pickleball pro Scott Moore on Monday before their exhibition games at the American Memorial Park courts.